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THE SEVEN ISLANDS.

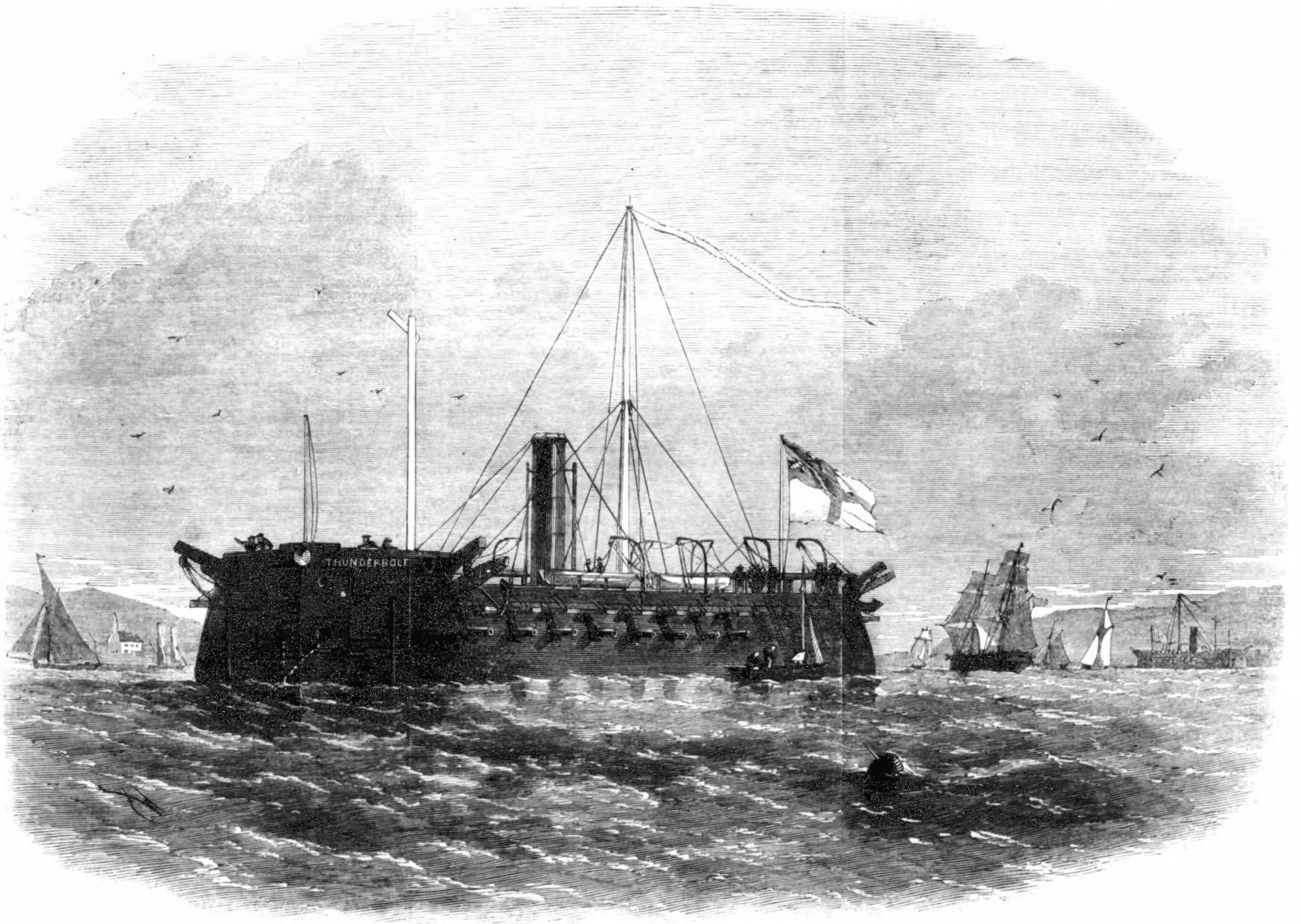
WE said, just a week ago, that Great Britain has to deal with two very troublesome "nationalities," of which one was oppressive, the other oppressed. At first sight it may appear a sheer waste of time to expatiate on the abuses of the judicial system that still exists in Jersey, or to resolve into their primitive nothingness the aspirations and regrets of the Ionians. But in reality it is not so. The ridiculous assumptions of the Jerseyites, indeed, escape the magniloquent comments of the Continental press, and in this country not one man in a hundred knows anything more of the island than the interesting facts, that wine is cheap, and that the shells on the shore are exceedingly beautiful. But with regard to the Ionian Islands there is this material difference that, although the ignorance of the British public is quite as profound on the one subject as on the other, the foreign press is generous enough to circulate all sorts of ambiguous reports and groundless statements touching the mutual relations that exist between the inhabitants of the Septinsular Republic and the protecting Power. It is by no means our intention, nor is it at all necessary, to violate the Horatian canon by commencing with a description of Penelope's suitors, or even by magnifying the piratical exploits of the Ionians during the period of anarchy and enthusiasm that terminated in the transfer of Greece from Turkey to Russia and in the general breaking up of Eastern Europe. We do not even propose to go so far back as the Congress of Vienna, and show how it was that Great Britain consented, at the instance of the other European Powers, to accept the protectorate of the Seven Islands. It will suffice for the object we have in view to explain how the practically successful and benevolent despotism under which the Ionians lived happily and prosperous for many years was suddenly exchanged for a democratical Government that is in a state of permanent dead-lock.

The first sparks of discontent seem to have fallen upon the islands from the neighbouring dominions of King Otho. Athenian newspapers containing articles of the most inflammatory description found their way into all the cafés

of Corfu, and the Government either would not or could not prevent their access. The next step, of course, was the emancipation of the native press. Equally of course the native press made the notable discovery that the Ionians were the most grievously misgoverned people in all Europe. A reform agitation was the natural consequence. The Governor, Lord Seaton, who, though a first-rate soldier, was no great politician, succumbed to the flatteries of clubs and journalists, and, becoming an ardent supporter of the Reform party, succeeded, in 1849, in effecting that change in the Constitution which has rendered all harmonious action between the Assembly and the Executive morally impossible. The franchise was greatly reduced, so as to more than double the number of the electoral body. The primary council was totally abolished, and the eleven seats in the Legislative Assembly thus vacated were thrown open. The Government lists of representative candidates were given up, and the vote by ballot introduced. In short, all those ingenious contrivances which formerly secured to the Lord High Commissioner a decided preponderance in the Government were abandoned, and a Constitution more democratic than that of England was conferred upon a people less able to appreciate its advantages than the ryots of Bengal or the mixed population of Mexico. The objections which have been urged by the natives against the existing system are, as might be expected, more purely theoretical than those which finally subverted its predecessor. There are now no grievances which it is not in the power of the islanders to redress by their own action. They are governed by their own laws administered by their own countrymen. They have not even their old favourite ground of complaint that their Government was arbitrary and irresponsible; it has, in fact, been liberalised till it has almost ceased to be a Government. They have been driven, therefore, to adopt the cuckoo-cry of "Nationality," the only remaining shred of political capital that is left to the Ionian demagogue. But for that his occupation would be gone; and it is deeply to be regretted that the unfortunate blunder of Sir John Young in 1857, and the mistaken kindness of Mr. Gladstone in 1858,

should have fanned into importance a cry that must otherwise have perished from downright inanity. The recommendation of Sir John Young, which so strangely leaked out in a Greek newspaper, was to the effect that England should allow three of the seven islands to annex themselves to Greece if such was their pleasure—a proposition that inevitably set the whole seven in a blaze. Mr. Gladstone was then sent out to pour water upon the fire, but he seems, through a mistaken idea of the people with whom he had to deal, to have poured oil instead. The demand for annexation only grew stronger. His own proposals were summarily rejected, and the leaders of the agitation have been encouraged by the well-intended deference paid to their vociferous declamation to proceed to still greater violence, compelling Sir Henry Storks to prorogue the Assembly in order to avoid the reception of a disloyal and insolent address.

Now, if the cry of nationality were really worth anything at all, England might feel bound to entertain the question of separation, however adverse to her own interests. Not that even this is certain, for it is very doubtful how far the plea of nationality alone, when unsupported by the pleas of bad government and oppression, can be held to justify the disturbance of existing settlements. But, as it is, she is wholly free from any obligation of the sort. The idea of nationality as a plea for separation stands, so far as the Ionians are concerned, entirely on its own basis, without the slightest support from any definite charge of misgovernment. Not one of the conditions are fulfilled which make it respectable elsewhere. It is not spontaneous, for it is stimulated by foreign agencies; it is not practical, for the Ionians are as little fit to form an integral portion of a Greek empire as the inhabitants of Otaheite; and it is not genuine, for the Ionians are not Greeks. It may be, indeed, that the peasantry, the actual tillers of the soil, are in some of the islands lineally descended from the "high-couraged" Kefallenes who fought with Ulysses beneath the walls of Troy; but the landed proprietors and the middle classes are descended from Neapolitan and Venetian families; and these are the men who talk most loudly of their "nationality." We maintain, therefore, that if England



THE NEW FLOATING-BATTERIES THUNDERBOLT AND ETNA.

considers it to be for her own interests to retain her hold on these islands, she is both legally and morally entitled to do so; and that it is for her interests there can scarcely be the shadow of a doubt. Corfu is the key of the Adriatic. Cephalonia possesses one of the finest seaports in the Mediterranean. Zante has an excellent roadstead and an almost impregnable fortress. In the present state of Europe, what manner of man can he be who would assert that the contingency will never arise in which the command of the Adriatic Sea and of the coast of Greece would prove an invaluable advantage? At the same time it cannot be denied that the position is one beset with considerable difficulties. The efficient government of the Ionian Republic seems almost impracticable without the abrogation of Lord Seaton's Constitution, but is it possible to take that retrogressive step? Would not the annulment of that impolitic measure be the signal for all kinds of abuse and misrepresentation on the part of the Continental press, and even of the extreme section of our own? On the other hand, the native population is evidently unfit for the exercise of those privileges which Lord Seaton so hastily bestowed upon them. The landowners are poor and ignorant. They live wholly in the towns and chiefly in the capital, Corfu, where they imitate Italian manners and pass all their time in the casino. Their estates, meanwhile, are farmed by bailiffs, who pay them one-third of the produce, which is often dissipated in a single night over the gaming-table of "The Nobles' Club." They are, consequently, place-hunters to a man; and, as they cannot all be provided for at once, the unsalaried portion keep up a violent opposition, and are ready to adopt any cry, however false or ridiculous, for the sake of political capital. The new Constitution has not only weakened the hands of the Executive Government, but has given an immense stimulus to the trade of political agitation throughout the islands. Lawyers without clients, and doctors without patients, each class incredibly numerous, rush into politics and scramble for a salary as London street-boys do for "a copper." Native colleges, indeed, have been established; but they are not likely to be of much use unless young men are encouraged to visit the universities of France, England, and Germany, in order that they may obtain some little knowledge of the world and of their true position in it. At present every clever lad of eighteen or twenty straightway fancies himself a Solon or a Themistocles, and dreams that his own little rock is the cynosure of Europe. What part is England now to play? Is she to cut these poor misguided islanders adrift; first to be incorporated with Greece, and eventually to become the prey of some great military despotism? Or is she to keep them resolutely beneath her tutelage, and honestly labour, by patience, firmness, and statesmanship, to efface the fantastic visions and foolish imaginings of the last twenty years? It is, in truth, a problem that might have puzzled Pericles. One thing, however, is perfectly clear. Things cannot continue as they now are, and almost any change would be an improvement that averted the pitiable spectacle of representative government brought into utter contempt by those who have aped its practice without learning its principles.

THE NEW FLOATING BATTERIES.

WHATEVER may be the opinion about the efficiency of our navy preparations, there is certainly a disposition to add to their strength; and week after week some improvement is proposed which tends to establish the fleet on a more decided basis. The latest additions are the two floating batteries Thunderbolt and Etna, which have recently been stationed off Shornmeade, in the Lower Hope Reach, about three miles below Gravesend, and are intended to remain there as a protection for the river during the construction of the land batteries at Coalhouse Point. Each of these floating batteries consists of sixteen guns, and are of 200-horse power, while their armaments are sufficiently powerful, the guns being 68-pounders, each of 95 cwt. Of these, two guns in each vessel can be brought to fire forward and two aft; or the whole broadside battery of twelve guns may be used in action on either side when required, the batteries having been constructed so as to render this manœuvre easy of execution.

The broadside of the Thunderbolt, as she lies off Shornmeade, will bear exactly with the Lower Hope Reach; and as the vessels swing with the tide the fore and aft guns bear up Gravesend Reach. The Etna is moored about half a mile below the Thunderbolt, her broadside battery bearing directly up Gravesend Reach, and her fore and aft guns sweeping Lower Hope Reach; so that any vessel attempting to come up the Thames from the Nore would come under the close and heavy fire of both batteries.

THE RUSSIANS AT THE COURT OF PEKIN.—Some further particulars have transpired concerning the new treaty between Russia and China which serve to throw light on the policy of Russia with regard to her neighbours in the East. It appears by recent advices received from St. Petersburg that the treaty drawn up and signed by the then Governor-General of East Siberia, Count Mouraviev-Amoursky—who has lately resigned this important office—though duly executed by the two respective plenipotentiaries as far back as August, 1858, has never been ratified by the Emperor of China, who, in spite of urgent and repeated remonstrances, had always found some plausible pretext for deferring it from day to day till November last, when the Emperor, panic-struck at the rapid approach of the British and French forces to his capital, fairly fled for safety to the wilds and deserts of Mongolia, leaving his brother, Prince Kung, to act with the delegated Imperial authority. It was mainly in consequence of the success of the allies that Prince Kung implored the mediation of General Ignatieff, and was so importunate as to go to him in person no less than four different times to solicit his friendly offices to save off the impending danger of the capital of the Emperor being either burned or pillaged; but the Russian Ambassador was in no hurry to comply with the request, and, seizing the favourable opportunity to secure first the interests of his own country, he agreed to act the part of mediator, but required as a preliminary *conditio sine qua non* the immediate ratification of the Russian treaty, which had been waiting for that act for more than two years. This was done, and the result is well known. Prince Kung expressed the deepest gratitude to General Ignatieff for the important services he rendered to China as mediator, and in many subsequent documents, such as proclamations, letters of safe conduct, and various ordinances, invariably gave him the flattering epithet of "Saviour of the country."

THE AMERICAN COTTON CROP.—The *New York Herald*, speaking of the cotton crop, says that it is probable tremendous efforts will be made by the planters of the South to produce cotton in spite of the obstacles raised by the war crisis, and that it is probable fair to infer that these efforts will result in the production of a crop in 1861, which, though probably far short of the great crops of 1858, 1859, and 1860, will not compare unfavourably with the crop of ten years ago, and which, with the increased supplies from other sources, will not leave the manufacturing world destitute of this essential staple. Very numerous failures have taken place among the dry-goods houses of New York.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The whole squadron stationed at Toulon has received orders to sail on the 20th inst. with all the steam transports.

M. Thouvenel has, it is said, addressed a circular to the French consular agents in America, recommending them to observe the strictest neutrality in the events which are now taking place in that country. Three Commissioners from the Southern Confederation have arrived at Paris. The French Government have determined to send a squadron to the Gulf of Mexico for the protection of French commerce.

The French Budget nominally shows an equilibrium, but a committee of examination have discovered a deficit of fourteen millions of francs. The same committee have also discovered that the number of troops under arms exceeds the strength set down in the Budget by some 80,000 men. This excess, which would be a grave matter in England, is but regarded as a trifle in France, where in a few weeks 700,000 men can be in readiness to take the field.

A bill has been introduced in the French Legislative Chamber for calling out one hundred thousand men of the conscription of the present year. It is chiefly important because introduced by the Government with a formal avowal that, in order to "provide for events which human sagacity is sometimes impotent to prevent," the Army of France must consist of six hundred thousand effectives. Of these one hundred thousand will be in reserve, subjected to short but complete drill, lasting for three months in the first year, two in the second, and one in the third.

The Imperial Government has been outvoted in the Senate on the herring question, in spite of all the eloquence of Baroche and the free-trade statistics of Michel Chevalier. An Admiral (Romain des Fosses), aided by a Cardinal (Matthieu), and backed by Dupin, with the support of Marquis de Boissy, have succeeded in referring back to the Home and Foreign Minister for reconsideration the projected reduction of duty on British and foreign salt fish and bloaters. Admiral Romain characterised the proposal as a fatal blow at the navy of France, and proclaimed Cobden deserving of a tomb alongside Nelson under St. Paul's dome if this measure passed. The conqueror of the Nile and Trafalgar destroyed our fleets when the guillotine had previously thinned the French Navy-list of its best officers; but this pacific sidewind withers up the only means of manning the Emperor's squadrons, and the finishing triumph of the British Trident will be due to Commodore Cobden.

SPAIN.

The *Epoca* of Madrid says:—"We can affirm, in the most positive manner, that England has not addressed any note to Spain against the annexation of San Domingo, and has not manifested any opinion indicating that the measure can give rise to any dangerous eventuality. As to France, it is quite certain that the Emperor has congratulated the Queen on the Dominican people having expressed the wish for annexation, which is very flattering for Spain." And, according to the *Correspondencia Autografa*, "Spain has, at present, entered into no engagement in reference to the annexation of San Domingo. Slavery, however, is not to be introduced. The legislation will be the same as that now valid in the Antilles."

We hear that the Spanish Government, like the French, has resolved to organise a permanent squadron of evolution, consisting, for the present, of five screw-frigates and a number of steam-corvettes and advice-boats. The plated frigate the Duke de Tetuan, when completed, is to form part of it.

It is reported that the Moors have humbly explained the difficulty they will have in paying the portion of the indemnity due at the end of May, and offer to pay as much as lies in their power.

ITALY.

Owing to the disturbed condition of parts of the Neapolitan provinces, where gangs of brigands, who cross the Roman frontiers, are incessantly committing outrages and endeavouring to get up a reactionary movement, the Italian Government have determined to dispatch a considerable body of troops to the locality of those attempts, in order finally to crush them. This determination was magnified by one of the Paris papers into a resolution to place the whole kingdom of the Two Sicilies under military occupation. Such an announcement naturally diffused much alarm, being supposed to indicate an entirely disorganised condition in the Neapolitan provinces. Letters from Turin, however, set at rest the exaggerated rumours which prevailed. The troops already in Naples are merely to be strengthened, solely with reference to the few disturbed spots on the borders of the Roman territory, where the nature of the country affords peculiar opportunity to the brigand or reactionary attempts.

The Bourbon party at Rome is preparing fresh expeditions to the Abruzzi.

An article in the *Opinione* of Turin makes a strong demand for the explicit and official recognition by France of the new state of things in Italy. "The time has arrived when France should explicitly and officially recognise the new state of things. Such a course would deprive the enemies of the kingdom of Italy of any pretext. The enemies of France would then no longer be able to say that her policy is equivocal."

The National Guard of Naples fraternised with the army on Tuesday evening, and a grand dinner was given in the San Carlo Theatre. More than 9000 persons were present.

The Turin *Gazette* announces that the resignation of Prince Carignan has been accepted, and that Signor de San Martino will undertake the duties of Lieutenant-General of the Neapolitan provinces. The system of government of those provinces is to undergo considerable modification.

A letter has been addressed by the Minister of Francis II. to his Majesty's agents accredited to foreign Courts, in which letter he says:—

At no period of the history of the Two Sicilies has there ever been remarked so much discontent, such irritation, or so much cruelty in the repression of the spontaneous movements of the inhabitants of those countries. It will be sufficient for me to tell you that in one day the direction of the police received two hundred and fifty telegrams relative to the movements which had taken place in the provinces; that the usurping Government had even been obliged to disarm entire companies of the National Guard; that, without counting those who had been killed in the different conflicts, more than two hundred prisoners have been shot by the Piedmontese, and that the prisons and some convents in the capital and the provinces are filled with suspected persons. I have thought it my duty to make you acquainted with these facts, in order that you may be able to enlighten public opinion on the subject.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The addresses of both Chambers to the Emperor have been published. They express a wish for the maintenance of the indivisibility of the empire, and a hope that Hungary may be induced to accept the new Constitution and send members to the Reichsrath. In reply to the address of the Upper Chamber, the Emperor said:—

I receive with sincere joy the address which the Upper Chamber of the Reichsrath resolved to present to me. It gives me assured confidence that the Chamber appreciates my intentions, and is determined, as one of the constitutional bodies of the Legislature, energetically to sustain and support my efforts to promote the prosperity of the country. It confirms me in the conviction that, with the aid of God, we shall succeed in accomplishing the task which has fallen to us.

The members who were elected by Venetia have refused to take their seats in the Reichsrath, on the ground that the few communes who have elected them cannot be considered as representing the will of the country.

The official *Wiener Zeitung* of Wednesday says:—"If the inhabitants of those communes of Hungary whose taxes are in arrear should still refuse to pay them, notwithstanding the requisition of

the special commissioners, the communes will be militarily occupied until two-thirds of the arrears due are paid."

The debate in the Hungarian Diet on the project of address in reply to the speech from the Throne, commenced on Monday. M. Deak, who is in favour of adopting an address, and leads the party by whom it is proposed, made a speech which was received with great enthusiasm. While recognising the possibility of a satisfactory union with Austria, M. Deak still strongly demanded the full recognition of the national rights of Hungary. The Opposition, of which the late Count Ladislaus Teleky was the leader, is composed of those who decline, under present circumstances, the unconditional recognition of the sovereignty of Francis Joseph, which an address in reply to the Imperial speech would imply, and desire that the Diet should merely adopt a resolution on the subject. Count Teleky was to have prepared and proposed the resolution.

The funeral of Count Teleky has taken place, and was made the occasion of a solemn and general demonstration. The *Wanderer* says:—

Never before has such a crowd been witnessed at Pesth. In addition to the population of the city and of Buda, great numbers assembled from the provinces. Several comitats were represented by deputations. M. Ghicz delivered a funeral oration in the hall of the Museum. Outside the city, where the body was surrendered to the family, M. Eotvos spoke. Although upwards of 100,000 persons assembled, there was not the least sign of disorder. Every shop was closed.

It appears impossible to doubt that the death of Count Teleky was an act of suicide. The pistol was his own, the ball from which he died fitted the barrel of the pistol, and corresponded precisely with that in the barrel of the fellow weapon in the Count's secretary; the door of the bedroom was locked on the inside. The Count had been long suffering under intense nervous susceptibility, arising from an organic disease. The serious nature of the responsibility he was about to incur as leader of the party who opposed the address—the possibility of such a course conducting to an open struggle between Hungary and Austria, probably weighed more heavily on his mind than it could bear, and led to the unhappy act which deprived Hungary of a patriot whose purity and high purpose were never questioned even by his bitterest political enemy.

At Raab, on the evening of the 12th, a crowd of people, partly armed, endeavoured to liberate four deserters from the hussar regiments who had been consigned to the military prison. Their design was, however, frustrated by the garrison. Three of the rioters were killed and fifteen wounded. The sentry of the military prison was stabbed to death. Several soldiers were wounded.

Count Rechberg had addressed to the Austrian Ambassador in London a despatch intended to be laid before Lord John Russell as a reply to that which was sent by Count Cavour to the Marquis D'Azeglio. Count Rechberg's despatch amounts merely to a general justification of the conduct of Austria with regard to Venetia, and a reconfirmation of the charge of disturbing the peace of Europe. Count Rechberg denies that Venetia is only to be kept under Austrian dominion by the maintenance of a state of siege.

RUSSIA AND POLAND.

By a telegram dated St. Petersburg, May 10, we learned that an insurrection of a religious character had broken out in the government of Kasan. Seventy peasants have been shot. We since learn that "the disturbances originated in an impostor, who declared himself a descendant of Peter III., and the real heir to the throne of Russia. Some of the misguided peasants believed in him. He has been captured and shot."

On the 7th inst., the Emperor's birthday, illumination was commanded at Warsaw more than ordinary severity. Nevertheless, it is stated that, with the exception of the public buildings, very little display was made. The following notice was issued by the Commissioner of Police the day before.

To-morrow, to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the Emperor, the town will be illuminated. The illumination must commence this evening at dusk, and last without interruption till midnight. At every window there must be at least two lamps. The illumination of houses by means of torches is forbidden. Whoever does not comply with this notice will be fined 4 roubles 50 kopecks.

The *Silesian Gazette* announces that a terrible inundation has taken place at the town of Kiev, in Russia, and that as many as 615 houses or buildings were under water. It gives no details.

The Emperor has just addressed a rescript to Count Panine, expressing his thanks to the commissioners who drew up the regulations relative to the emancipation of the serfs.

PRUSSIA.

A letter from Berlin, dated the 8th inst., says:—"Another lamentable police affair has occurred here. M. Patzke, the chief of the executive police, accused of forgery, fled, but has been arrested, and is now in prison. What causes more sensation is, that M. Zedlitz, the head of the police, whose duty it was to have M. Patzke watched, by order of the Court, gave him three days' leave, which was taken advantage of by the latter to effect his escape. He was captured at Ystad, in Sweden."

DENMARK.

A letter from Berlin of the 12th says it is stated in diplomatic circles that Lord Palmerston has again proposed to the Cabinet of Copenhagen his plan of 1848 for dividing Schleswig—the north part of the Duchy to be incorporated in Denmark, and the south to be annexed to Holstein. It adds that the Danish Government will not consent to this arrangement, as it would deprive Denmark of the frontier of the Eider and of the Dannevirke.

INDIA AND CHINA.

From China we hear that the Yang-Tse expedition had reached Hankou, and that three trading ports had been selected. The expedition had met with no impediment from the rebels, who had shown themselves anxious to be on good terms with the foreigners. The ice had given way in the Gulf of Pecheli, and the mails had at length reached Tien-Tsin. The Chinese Government had issued a decree establishing a board of foreign affairs at Peking.

The accounts from Calcutta represent the prospects of the indigo crop as very bad, no rain having fallen up to April 18. The accounts of the famine from the north-western districts were still very harrowing. Colonel Baird Smith, the Famine Commissioner, has been visiting Furruckabad, Mynpoorie, and part of the Agra district, and from his accounts there certainly seems to be some improvement. It must be borne in mind, however, that these are not the most distressed districts. On his suggestion it has been determined to introduce more local committees to act under the central ones. In Moradabad and Bolundshah great distress still prevails. It seems, too, that the present system of relief does not reach many of the worst cases, and many take advantage of the public distribution of food who, in health and strength, are well able to work.

THE DEATH OF COUNT TELEKY.—Opinions are still divided in Hungary as to the cause of Count Teleky's recent death. Many think that the unfortunate nobleman had recourse to suicide that he might not be placed in the alternative of being faithless either to his principles and country or to the promise which he made to the Emperor Francis Joseph at the time of his liberation. Some colour is given to this view by a letter which he addressed very recently to the Comitatus of Zala. In this letter he declared himself freed from his promise to the Emperor. "The field of politics," he said, "is open to me, and nothing can force me to renounce it. As to my principles, no one can suppose that I shall not be faithful to them to my last breath. The whole tenor of my life, all my struggles, material wellbeing, sufferings, grief, my dearest hopes, my harrowing losses, all attach me to these principles. Can there be a more indissoluble tie? Death even would not break it; for the ashes of a dead man have their mission—they continue the mission of the living."

A GREAT FIRE broke out on Friday week in the town of Glarus, in Switzerland, and raged throughout the most part of Saturday. More than 150 houses had been destroyed up to the moment when the news was dispatched.

THE FRENCH IN SYRIA.

THE French Senate have discussed a petition in favour of the continued occupation of Syria. The proposal of the committee who had considered the petition was that its prayer should not receive the support of the Senate, inasmuch as the Senate preferred to leave the question entirely in the hands of the Government. The Marquis de la Rochejaquelein, Cardinal Donnet, and other Senators opposed the recommendation.

M. Billault gave an historical outline of the events in Syria, and said that the almost powerless state of Turkey obliged the great Powers to act with extreme circumspection. He mentioned the negotiations that preceded the occupation of Syria by French troops, which was prolonged until the 5th of June, notwithstanding some objections. "England," he said, "only consented to the prolongation on the express condition that that should be the last term. With regard to the organisation of Syria, the Government has weighty reasons for supposing that the proposal to appoint a Christian chief only, who should govern the whole population of Mount Lebanon, has great chances of being adopted. The only thing to be done, therefore, is to execute the convention, and evacuate Syria on the 5th of June. If the withdrawal of our troops has lamentable consequences, certain persons have accepted a great responsibility. Should blood be shed because our counsels have been misunderstood, we shall call Europe to witness to the immense responsibility it has incurred. It is not France who evacuates Syria; it is Europe. When France supports a cause of her own, her acts are free, and she does not withdraw. What will now be the conduct of the Emperor? France will not forget her duty. With the transports which are to bring back the troops will sail six vessels, which will cruise in the waters of Beyrout, and will be the terror of the murderers. England is aware of this, and associates herself with us. Her flag will float in the Levant side by side with ours and that of Russia, and then, if necessity requires them, other measures will be taken."

The order of the day was then adopted almost unanimously, there being only two dissentient votes.

THE CONFLICT IN AMERICA.

THE prospects of an immediate collision in America appear to have diminished, though the reports from the various states are contradictory. Washington was now considered safe, it being defended by a force of 18,000 men. The Governor of Virginia had informed President Lincoln that he would not permit the Confederate troops to pass through that State to attack the Federal capital. This would seem to be in answer to a threat made by the President that, if there were any further movements of troops north of Richmond, he would attack that city and the seaport town of Norfolk. Maryland has decided to remain in the Union, her Legislature having given a majority of thirty-eight against secession. Such a result is, no doubt, greatly attributable to the alarm which the population generally must have felt at the prospect of Maryland becoming the battle-ground of the two armies, besides which all the substantial interests of the State are connected far more with the North than with the South. But since the above intelligence reached us we learn that a report on Federal relations very hostile to the Federal Government has passed the Maryland Legislature. The Governor of Missouri, in his message to the Legislature, condemns the action of President Lincoln's Administration. The Federal flag had been hoisted in Baltimore itself, so that it would appear that the "Plug Uglies" are no longer in the ascendant. It was rumoured that Tennessee had passed a secession ordinance. Fort Pickens has been reinforced without resistance on the part of the Secessionists. Baltimore is quiet.

Against this news we have to set the report that a movement into Virginia on the part of the Federal troops was expected to take place in a few days; the blockade of the Southern ports was to be enforced; and the President intended to demand the restoration of the Norfolk Navy Yard and the arsenal at Harper's Ferry. He has issued another proclamation calling for 42,000 volunteers—23,000 for the regular army, and 18,000 seamen.

At India Villa, Texas, 450 Federal troops had surrendered to 800 Texans, under Colonel Vornum, after having first attempted to escape in two sailing-vessels. They were overtaken by steamers. The men were to be allowed either to join the Confederate army or take oath not to serve against the Confederation. Mr. Jefferson Davis has sent a message to the Montgomery Congress declaring that the South will resist subjugation to the last extremity. Preparations for war continue to be made with undiminished activity on both sides.

The *New York Tribune* publishes an extraordinary story as coming from a deserter from Charleston, to the effect that between 300 and 400 men were killed in Fort Moultrie by the guns of Fort Sumter, and that they were secretly buried and the matter kept quiet!

An insurrection has broken out among the Indians at Yucatan, in which it is said fifteen British officers were killed. A force had been dispatched from Ruatan to the scene of action.

From Quebec we learn that the St. Lawrence has been visited by a severe gale, accompanied by a heavy snowstorm. Several vessels had been driven ashore, and others lost in the ice.

THE DEUCE IN SAVOY.—We have news from Geneva (8th May) that the devil in person has got possession of several villages on the Savoy side of the lake at and around Thonon, the possessed demoniacs being urged by uncontrollable impulse to climb trees. This epidemic rages almost exclusively among the gentler sex, and the Bishop of Annecy, Monsiegnor Renu, with a staff of Grand Vicars, has been exorcising the fair enthusiasts ineffectually. The French Government has dispatched the physician Constant, with a staff of mad doctors, to try their skill on the patients.

PRIVATERRING AND REFUDIATION.—Some American politicians are disposed to believe that the refusal of the United States' Government to accede to the proposals of the Congress at Paris for the abolition of the system of privaterring was part of a plot already deliberately being organised in favour of the secession movement. The chief ground for this idea seems to lie in the fact that Mr. Jefferson Davis, now the President of the Southern Confederation, was at that time Federal Secretary of War, and a very influential member of the Cabinet.

KIDNAPPING.—The *Cochin Courier* mentions a case of kidnapping which occurred during the stay of the Arab ship Sir Edward Parry in the port of Cochin. A Moplah passenger enticed a native boy of eleven years of age on board the vessel with the view to sell him as a slave in Arabia. The father missed his son, the ship was searched, and the boy found. The *Courier* says "the system of kidnapping natives of India to be sold in Muscat and Zanzibar is a monstrous evil which is assuming fearful proportions. Many painful instances have come to our knowledge where Arabs have contracted marriages with women on this coast with the deliberate intention of selling them into slavery at Zanzibar."

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE REV. MR. BONWELL.—The appeal in this case on the part of the Rev. James Bonwell, Incumbent of St. Philip's, Stepney, against the decision and sentence of Dr. Lushington, sitting as Dean of Arches, has been set down to be heard before the Lords of the Privy Council; but an obstruction has arisen which will in all probability prevent their Lordships hearing the appeal, and place the Bishop of London in a very peculiar position. The Rev. Mr. Bonwell, who was under sentence of deprivation at the suit of the Bishop, will have obtained an appeal against that decision without the means of prosecuting it. It is well known that all the protracted proceedings arising out of the alleged liaison with Miss Yorath, and which led to the charge of immorality preferred by the Bishop against Mr. Bonwell, have occasioned a vast expense, and entirely impoverished the latter. Although he has, to save expense of counsel and attorney, conducted his case in person, he finds that he cannot comply with the rule of the Court which requires him to incur the enormous expense of a transcript of the notes of the hearing and judgment, and drawing up the case, and then printing and furnishing sixty copies to the Registry Office, forty of which are sent to the Privy Council. In default of these copies being delivered the case cannot be heard, and when called on will be struck out, and entitle the Bishop to ask it being dismissed, which will follow as a matter of course.

THE MANUSCRIPT MISAL OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY belonging to the Abbey of St. Lo, at Rouen, was sold on Saturday, at Paris, for the enormous sum of 24,850*fr.*—*Galignani.*

THE HOSTILITIES IN AMERICA.

A ROYAL Proclamation has been published enjoining the observance, on the part of British subjects, of a strict neutrality in regard to the hostilities which have broken out in America.

The proclamation, after noticing the fact that hostilities had unhappily commenced between the Government of the United States of America and certain States "styling themselves the Confederate States of the South," strictly charges and commands "all the loving subjects of her Majesty to observe a strict neutrality in and during the aforesaid hostilities, and to abstain from violating or contravening the laws and statutes of the realm in that behalf, or the law of nations in relation thereto, as they will answer to the contrary at their peril." The proclamation next sets forth *in extenso* the provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act of 1819, which prohibits British subjects from engaging in the naval or military service of any foreign Prince, Potentate, colony, &c., without the leave and license of her Majesty; from equipping or fitting out vessels for the service of any such foreign Prince, Potentate, colony, &c., and from adding to or increasing the warlike force of any ship or vessel of war, cruiser, or other armed vessel belonging to a foreign Power which may enter the ports of this country. In order that none of her Majesty's subjects may render themselves liable to the penalties imposed by the statute, the proclamation strictly commands that no person or persons whatsoever shall commit any act, matter, or thing contrary to the provisions of the said statute upon pain of the several penalties imposed (fine and imprisonment and the confiscation of the vessels and warlike stores) and of her Majesty's "high displeasure." The proclamation, however, in several important particulars proceeds to define and lay down those rules of maritime war which exist independently of English positive law. It warns British subjects that if, in violation of their duty, they enter into the service of either of the contending parties on board a ship of war or transport, or serve abroad any privateer bearing letters of marque, or break, or endeavour to break, any blockade "lawfully or actually established," they will do so at their own peril, "and that they will in nowise obtain any protection for or against any liabilities or penal consequences, but will, on the contrary, incur her Majesty's high displeasure by such misconduct." There is also given the usual warning against carrying officers, soldiers, despatches, arms, military stores or materials, or any article or articles considered to be contraband of war according to the law or modern usage of nations. These words are (perhaps purposely) ambiguous, because we all know that important articles which, in former contests, were of innocent use, have, by the application of science, become formidable implements of modern warfare. Take, for instance, coal and the component parts of steam-engines, which never yet have been declared by any competent tribunal to be contraband of war. But the proclamation wisely abstains from laying down any new catalogue of contraband, which could only be enacted by universal consent or by treaty. An emphatic warning is nevertheless necessary, although its terms may not be either so explicit or extensive as English speculators, for the protection of their adventures, may desire.

THE JUDGES AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—The Judges were entertained at the Mansion House yesterday week, and the principal members of the Bar were invited to meet them. Lord Chief Justice Erle spoke to the toast of "Her Majesty's Judges." It gave him great pleasure to believe that in no country was the independence of the judicial bench more complete, in no country was the administration of justice more free from improper influences, and in no country were the rights of the people better protected. But, although by the constitution of the judicial bench they were enabled to do much directly towards this result, indirectly they received most valuable assistance and support from that powerful branch of the profession which co-operated with them, the Bar, the great landed proprietors in the country, who, as magistrates, brought justice as it were to every man's door, and to the juries. Without the learning and independence of the Bar, the spirit of fairness which invariably pervaded the jury-box, and the co-operation of the magistracy in administering justice in their respective subordinate jurisdictions conscientiously and in accordance with the spirit and the letter of the law, the duties of the Judges of the superior courts would be far more onerous and difficult. They (the Judges) were there in accordance with an ancient custom, and he felt an additional gratification in that fact, because he could not forget that the laws of England were largely built up and intertwined with ancient custom, and that ancient custom was one powerful element in the stability of English law.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—The national collection of pictures from which its owners, the public, have been so long excluded in consequence of the alterations that have been made in the building has been reopened. About 170 feet in length of the centre portion of the building has been reconstructed, the old spacious but dark and useless hall has been converted into two commodious saloons, the one on the lower level being appropriated to the Royal Academy, for the annual exhibition of sculpture, that on the upper constituting the new room of the National Gallery. The old approach has been closed, and the entrance to the Gallery is now by a side door on the west, corresponding to the entrance to the Academy on the other side. The new hall is small compared with the old, but is light and neat; on the right hand in going in is the well of the dome, which, by means of a partition-wall, has been converted into a stick and umbrella depository for both institutions; immediately in front is a handsome flight of steps which lead at once into what was formerly the small south room, now papered crimson, and containing some early Italian pictures and the Kruger collection. The most important change, however, has been made in the principal room. The dimensions are noble, the room being 75 feet long, 30 wide, and 33 high. Instead of a lantern as in the other rooms, the chieftest has uniformly covered the ceiling, three great bays being opened in the centre for light, and the whole is delicately tinted. The wall is surmounted by a handsome cornice, enriched by a broad gold moulding, which separates it from the paper, here maroon. The days on which the Gallery are opened to the public are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday. On Thursday and Friday it is reserved for students.

VEUILLOT'S LAST.—A new pamphlet, "Waterloo," by Veuillot, has just been published. Under Veuillot's pen a totally new aspect is given to this decisive battle of the world. It was not a blow for the final deliverance of Europe from an intolerable public nuisance; it was not even the restoration of legitimacy, the throne, and the altar in France and elsewhere, as hitherto understood by the sticklers for Divine right; it was simply a great Protestant manoeuvre against the Pope! The attack on Hougmont was a pious crusade of devout moustaches de la garde. The Connaught Rangers were ranged on the side of Luther, and the brave Belges were the dupes of Satan. Blucher was a second Zingir, and Wellington thought less about the articles of war than about thirty-nine other articles. The part played by Austria in the Holy Alliance, which culminated in La Belle Alliance, is not well explained, nor the share Spain and Portugal had in precipitating "the downfall of Catholicity" on that 18th of June.

THE WORKING MALES of a population are estimated at one-fifth of the aggregate number, giving a total in France of seven millions. The army, amounting to 600,000, therefore, draws away from works of peace rather more than one man in every twelve—a loss of productiveness to the country equal to an income tax of two shillings in the pound spent on war.

IN THE PUNJAB JUNGLES, in 1860, there were 9 men, 4 women, and 432 children killed, and 55 persons injured, by wild beasts. In 1859 and 1860 Government paid 14,386 rupees as rewards for the destruction of 4225 wild beasts and their cubs, and yet in the same period 1000 children were destroyed.

THE OTHER EVENING A THIEF got into the dressing-rooms of the *Océa Comique*, Paris, during the performance of "Salvator Rosa," and, passing for one of the troupe of walking gentlemen, slipped on a brigand's costume, with which he forthwith levanted. He sold the dress for the trifling sum of 2*fr.*, and has since been arrested.

THE *Gazette de France* and *L'Union* congratulate their readers on the intelligence that a basket has reached the Vatican containing, not a gross of green spectacles, but several dozen pair of silver shoe-buckles of most antique and varied patterns—this offering of plate being the contribution of Piedmontese presbyters of the old school to Peter's pence.

ONE HOUR'S MORNING FROST on Sunday, the 5th of May, has done enormous damage to the vines in the peninsula between the sea and the Gironde, comprising the Medoc district. The loss is estimated by the Bordeaux wine-planters at 400 million francs, and a cask of claret has risen 150 francs in the market.

IT IS REMOURED that M. de Lesseps has just returned from Egypt to Paris, to raise further funds for the prosecution of the Suez Canal. According to some accounts, about £300,000 has already been spent without adequate result, an expensive dyke on the Mediterranean side having been washed away.

IRELAND.

FRAUD BY PRETENDED DEATH.—An extraordinary case of conspiracy to defraud by means of a supposititious death came before the Dublin magistrates at the head police office on Monday. A Mrs. Maria Higgins was entitled to a life annuity, payable out of the Court of Chancery, with power to dispose by will of the fund in court. In 1858 the husband of this woman produced a certificate of her death and of her burial in Glasnevin Cemetery, and also a will purporting to be made by her, and in virtue of it a sum of £500 was drawn out of the Court. Recently the fraud was discovered, and the coffin, when examined, was found to contain only stones and rags. A young man named Devereux was implicated in the fraud. The case was remanded.

SCOTLAND.

REFORM MEETING AT EDINBURGH.—A great Reform meeting was held at Edinburgh on Friday night. One resolution regarded the abandonment of Reform by the Ministry with regret and indignation, and as a violation of their solemn pledges; another enumerated a £5 borough and a £10 county franchise, the vote by ballot, and a redistribution of seats, as essential to any satisfactory measure of Reform; and a third declared that the meeting had no confidence in Mr. Black as its representative, and called upon him to resign. The Lord Provost presided.

THE PROVINCES.

SCENE IN A CIRCUS.—Yesterday week a circumstance of an exciting nature occurred at Hengler's Circus, Sheffield. During his engagement at this popular place of amusement Mr. Dan Castello had been exhibiting his highly-trained horse Ducrow, and a poudorous buffalo, which he bought in America. To provide against accident in the event of the buffalo turning violent, Castello held the animal by a rope fastened to a hook through its nose, and whenever it exhibited symptoms of obstinacy he applied a whip. On Friday evening the buffalo gave evidence of more than ordinary stubbornness. When it came to that part of the programme at which it should leap over a number of bars placed against the side of the arena it cleared one, and then turned upon Castello and knocked him down. The animal fell heavily upon him, and attempted to gore him; but Castello succeeded in avoiding much of the injury which would otherwise have been inflicted on him. The horns of the brute struck several times against the side of the arena. The audience, which was very large, screamed and shouted, and several people ran out of the place. At length Castello succeeded in escaping from his assailant, and jumped into the boxes. The buffalo, on losing its victim, immediately ran out of the arena the same way that it had entered, and order was soon afterwards restored. After all, Castello was not dangerously hurt.

SHOCKING TRAGEDY.—On Saturday afternoon a double murder and suicide were committed at Gallop Green, a pit village near Gateshead. The wife of a pitman named Stoker, while her husband was absent at Newcastle, cut her own throat and the throats of two of her children. Her children were found by Stoker on his return lying dead on a bed. The mother, still alive, was stretched beside them. She lived till the evening. Before her death she said she was out of her mind.

MR. S. LAING.—Our readers will remember the charges made some time ago against Mr. Laing that he had acted as a director of the Hamilton and Toronto Railway (connected with the Great Western of Canada Company) at the same time that he was in partnership with one of the contractors employed by the company. In a letter published in India, and received by this mail, he points out that he simply acted as provisional director, and resigned when he took shares in Mr. Wythes's contract. He quotes documents to substantiate his defence.

LOSS OF THE GLASGOW STEAM-SHIP UNITED STATES.

The screw steam-ship United States, from Glasgow for Quebec, was wrecked on Bird Rocks on the 25th ult. The crew of the United States were brought to Liverpool by the *Jura*. The following is the statement of the captain of the United States:—

At nine o'clock on the evening of the 25th we sighted St. Paul's Light, and steered for the Bird Rocks, which we sighted at twenty minutes past one, almost right ahead. Our course was then altered so as to come to a proper berth. After the vessel had passed the Great Bird Rock, judging that we were at least two miles from the island, I ordered the vessel to be steered for Channel-courge, then abreast of the Small Bird Rocks. She struck on the outer edge of the reef, though I believe she was at least a mile outside of it. There was nothing in the water which indicated that there was a reef or a shoal there. The vessel had all the sails set at the time when she struck. I had the sails taken in, and for half an hour the vessel made no water. We backed the engines, but she would not come off, and they were stopped again. At this time the wind began to freshen into a gale from S.E., the sea rose, and the ship began to strike heavily, so the boats were got out and the passengers ordered up from below. They were safely got into the boats, which kept by the leeward of the ship for shelter until daylight.

The bark Maranham, Captain Emerson, then hove in sight. Signals were shown to her, and she came straight for the wreck. I then boarded her in my own boat, and asked the captain to take on board my passengers and crew. He at once consented. I then returned to the wreck to take off the remainder of the passengers and crew, and see that there was no one left. One of the boats with passengers drifted away, and was lost sight of for a time, but when the rest were put on board search was made for her, and she was found. We then mustered the passengers and crew (there were eighty-seven passengers, of whom seventy-eight were strangers), and found them all except David Dunlop, a stowage passenger from Glasgow. We saved little or no baggage, as by this time the sea was running high and dashing over the ship, which had fallen over on her beam ends. Before leaving we hauled down the ensign, which had been at half mast.

MURDER AT RICHMOND.—Francesco Pierotti, an organ-grinder, was brought up on Saturday last before a full bench of magistrates, sitting in petty sessions at Richmond, for final examination on the charge of having killed John Lynch, a private in the Surrey Militia. It appeared, from the evidence adduced on the previous examination, that on the evening of Saturday, May 4, Francesco Pierotti was in a public-house in Brewer's-lane, Richmond, where he had been lodging for some time, and where a great many militiamen were billeted, some of them being on the present occasion rather the worse for liquor. Lynch was amongst them, and, addressing some unbecoming language to the house-servant, was rebuked by the prisoner. His remonstrance gave the deceased and his companions occasion to ridicule and tax him with jealousy—deceased pulling prisoner's beard. A fight ensued, which was put a stop to by the landlord turning the riotous parties out of the house. The fight, however, was resumed in the street, where Pierotti was cruelly ill-treated by the militiamen. In the excitement of the moment, he drew a knife from his pocket and stabbed Lynch, who expired three days afterwards. The prisoner was committed for trial.

THE EARTHQUAKE AT MENDOZA.—The accounts of the earthquake at Mendoza, in the Argentine Republic, contained in letters received from Valparaiso dispel the hope that its consequences would prove to have been exaggerated. There appears no doubt that from 6000 to 8000 persons perished, the shock having occurred in the evening, when the population were mostly in their houses. It lasted about five or six seconds, and was followed by minor shocks on the three following days, which completed the devastation. Not a single edifice remained uninjured, and of the three large churches in the place not a column was standing. The few survivors were employed incessantly in extracting the bodies of their friends and relatives from the ruins, and their task was rendered more painful and dangerous by the incursion of bands of plunderers from the surrounding country. The city of San Juan, in the same region, is also said to have been almost wholly destroyed, and the calamity there was increased by the river leaving its channel and inundating the town.—*The Times's City Article.*

ACCIDENT TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The Prince of Wales met with an accident while boating at Cambridge on Saturday. His Royal Highness and Captain Grey were amusing themselves in a small boat, known as a "tub," on the river at the back of Trinity, and near Gerard's Hostel bridge, when one of them lost his oar, and in an attempt to recover it the boat was upset, and the Prince and Captain Grey were precipitated into the water. Fortunately the water was not deep at the spot, and the Cam cannot boast of width anywhere. Assistance was at hand, and the Prince and his companion were soon on shore again, the only inconvenience experienced being a wetting. This was soon remedied by a change of clothes at college, and the Prince was able to attend the boat-races in the evening.

VISIT OF THE PRINCE CONSORT TO THE CITY.—On Saturday the Prince Consort, attended by Major Du Plat, visited Ironmongers' Hall, in Fenchurch-street, for the purpose of inspecting the exhibitions of works of art and virtu which adorned the noble hall and suite of rooms on the occasion of the conversazione given by the company. His Royal Highness, on alighting from his carriage, was received by Mr. Richard Baskett, the master, Mr. J. W. Bailey, and Mr. C. L. Luckart, wardens of the company, as also several members of the court, who had the honour of conducting the Prince through the various apartments. The Prince's visit lasted upwards of an hour, and, on leaving, he expressed his satisfaction at the collection he had witnessed.



ARRIVAL AT TIEN-TSIN OF THE FIRST INSTALMENT OF THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. CLARET.)

ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST PART
OF THE CHINESE INDEMNITY
AT TIEN-TSIN.

The Treaty of Peking has terminated the Chinese differences, and is already being carried into execution. Besides the pecuniary indemnities which the Chinese Government has been compelled to pay to the families of the prisoners who were massacred, there has been imposed a war contribution for the purpose of compensating for the fresh necessities accumulated by the expedition in the Celestial Empire. In conformity with these stipulations the Emperor sent two convoys to Tien-Tsin—the first in charge of 2000 taels, and the second of 3000, which were at once conveyed to the quarters of the English General.

The waggons charged with the money were escorted by a detachment of the Tartar guard, and by some of the allied soldiers who were placed in charge, for the very good reason that there was always trickery to be suspected on the part of the Mandarins.

In order to take advantage of the clauses of the new treaty a dozen small steamers, under the command of Admiral Hope, have already set out for Nankin. The object of the expedition is to go up the great River Hang-Ki-Kiang as far as the ancient capital of China, there to form a naval station, and to follow the stream to the immense city of Han-Kéou, distant about three hundred leagues from Shanghai. This city, it is said, consists of three united villages, comprehending a population of eight million inhabitants.

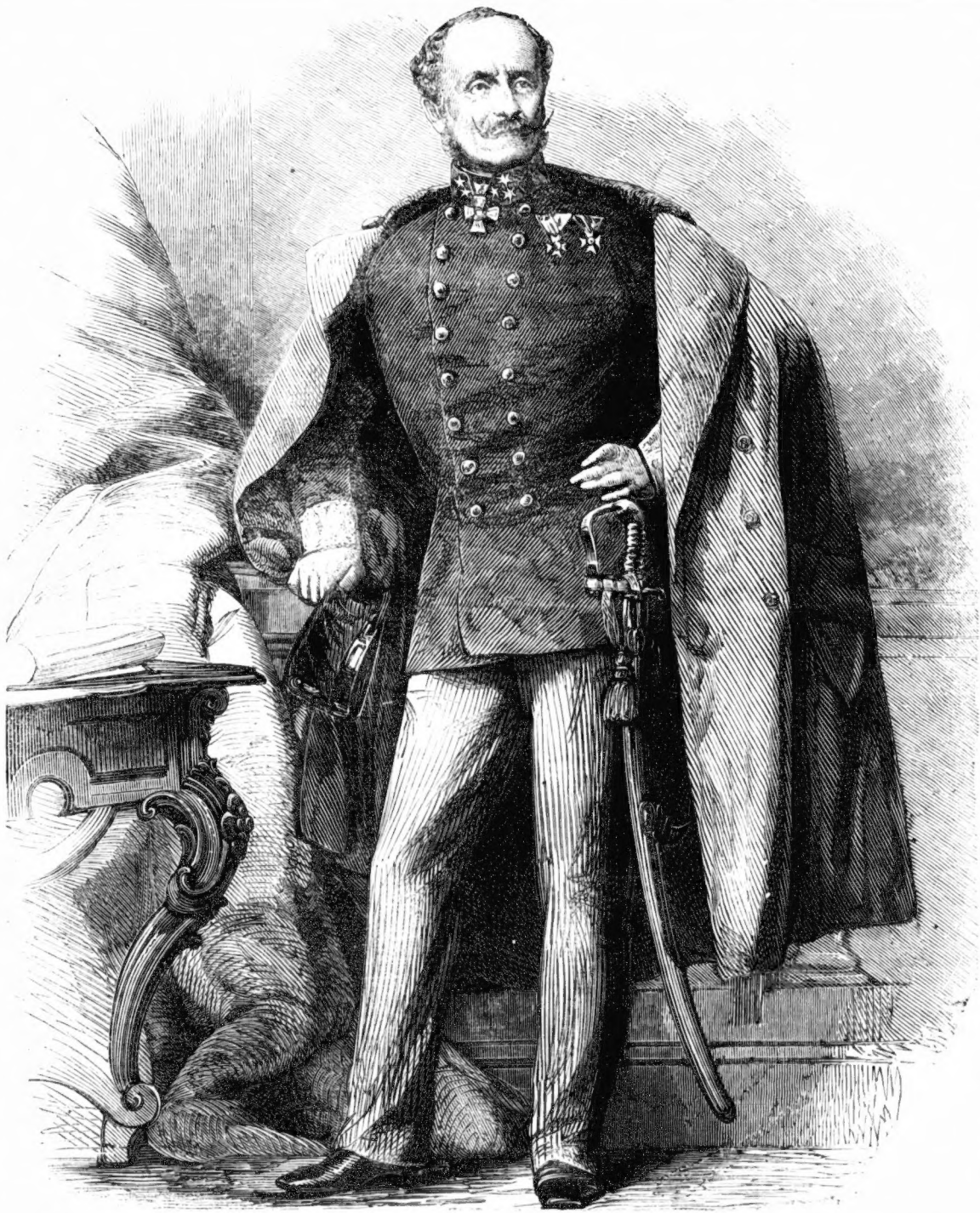
The steamers convey an important scientific commission, which from Han-Kéou proceed to the provinces of Hon-Pé and Se-Tchouen, the largest in the empire: they will then pass the Chinese frontier in order to reach Lassa, the capital of Thibet, and enter British India by the valley of Brahmapootra, after having traversed the immense chain of the Himalaya. Only one Frenchman, M. Simon, has been sent to accompany this expedition, which will be of the greatest explorative and scientific interest.

The whole sum demanded by Sir Hope Grant and the French Generals for indemnification for the families of the murdered men was about £170,000. The indemnity money for the British captives was accompanied by a note from Prince Kung to the Earl of Elgin as follows:—"The Prince Kung, Imperial Commissioner, makes a communication. On receipt of the British Minister's despatch, applying for the sum of 300,000

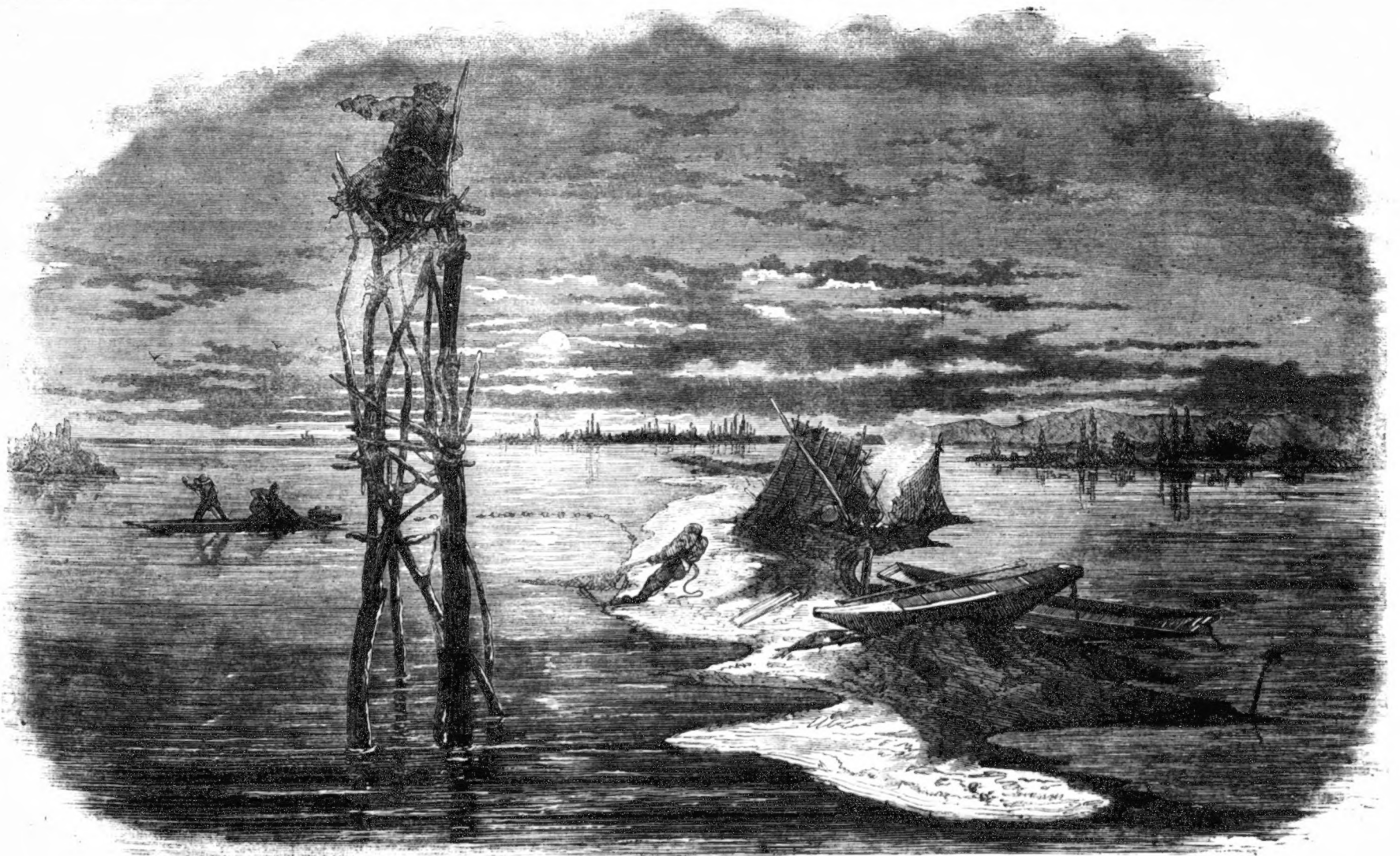
taels, to compensate (the suffering and losses of) the British officers and soldiers (made prisoners), the Prince wrote to say that he assented entirely, and he has this day sent officers to hand over that sum, in security of a good understanding between the nations. He trusts that the British Minister will have it duly taken over, and will write a reply acknowledging the receipt of this money, which reply can be handed to the officer sent with it, that he may bring it to the Prince in token of good faith. A necessary communication, addressed to his Excellency the Earl of Elgin, &c. Hien-Fung, 10th year, 9th moon, 9th day (October 22, 1860").

GENERAL BENEDEK.

GENERAL BENEDEK, Chief of Austrian Army in Venetia, was born at (Edenburgh, in Hungary, in 1804. It was he who, in 1846, repressed the insurrection in Galicia, and in 1847 he served in Italy, where he distinguished himself both at Mortara and Novara. At the battle of San Martino General Benedek commanded 60,000 Austrians who held a position on the opposite side of the mamelons during the French attack at the battle of Solferino. The position now occupied by the General may ultimately need all his ability to retain, since by the last news it would appear that some of the Austrian troops are being withdrawn from the Italian provinces, and important movements have already taken place in Venetia. It is said that the flotilla of gunboats on the lake of Garda will be disarmed, and that the third battalion of every regiment at Mantua is expected to leave the garrison, so that a number of houses lately occupied by troops are now empty. The reason of these movements is, doubtless, that Austria may have troops at her disposal in case of a struggle with Hungary, and hopes to take the Italian soldiers of her army to oppose the Hungarians. Meanwhile three Hungarian officers have deserted from Riva, on the Lake of Garda; and in a mock battle some of the German infantry were wounded and two killed by the opposing Tyrolese. There seems to be little hope of a peaceful arrangement with Austria as to Venetia; and Italians are looking with breathless interest on the tide of events in Hungary that they may see what opportunities are in store for themselves. Whatever may be the result, the Commander of the Austrian troops in Venetia holds a position of no ordinary difficulty.



GENERAL BENEDEK, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE AUSTRIAN ARMY IN ITALY.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY THIBAUT.)



SALMON-FISHING ON THE RHINE—SIGNALLING THE ARRIVAL OF THE FISH.

SALMON-FISHING ON THE RHINE.

WHETHER it be regarded from an artist's, a sportsman's, or a gourmand's point of view, the salmon must certainly be considered the king of fish. Beautiful in appearance, bold and vigorous in action, and transcendent in adaptability as human food, he claims a place of high distinction, and should certainly be the subject of prohibitory legislation against those who would heedlessly destroy his race.

The salmon, the trout, and the umber, or red charr, are all of the same family, their relationship being established by the excrecence upon the skin of the back towards the tail, while all three of them haunt the same fresh and rapid streams, and feed in the same manner.

But while the umber is silvered like a bleak, the trout is golden, with a green and brown tinge, upon which, again, is a sort of red mottling, very beautiful to see. The salmon, again, is alternately adorned with each of these costumes, for, while the silver of the umber serves him for a travelling dress, in autumn he takes the tints of the trout, whose touches of carmine and brilliant metallic reflections are worn with still greater beauty. It is only the male, however, who is so brilliant; the female is soberly attired. The salmon amongst fish, like the swallow and many others amongst birds, is taken every year with an irresistible desire to travel. Leaving the sea, they enter the mouth of some river, where the stream, descending from the mountains, is suitable for the growth of the young fish. Five or six leagues from the Rhine there are four or five of such streams, such as the Kinzig, the Schutter, the Murg, and the Oos, and in these may be seen innumerable shoals of young salmon, who do not repair to the sea until they have remained in the fresh water long enough to attain the size and strength necessary to confront the waves. It need scarcely be said that the salmon-fishing on these streams is an important occupation, since the fish, and even its skin, is valuable. There are three ways of fishing—by harpoon, by the basket-net, and the regular haul-net. Of course, the harpoon is the least used, as it can only be employed where one may approach the fish without much difficulty. The harpoon is attached to a long cord, which allows the fish to leap after it has been struck with the harpoon; but the plan is especially dangerous if the sportsman allows the cord to become entangled with his clothes or twisted round his body, since the force with which the salmon plunges away is sufficient to throw him into the stream. The carplet or basket-net is more common, and is used at the mouth of the Rhine, at Basle, and at Schaffhausen—in most places, in short, where there is a narrow canal, through which the fish must inevitably pass in ascending the course of the river.

The carplet is, in truth, a sort of basket of cordage, open at the top, which is extended by being tied to the ends of a couple of bent boughs or half-hoops. This is suspended to the end of a long pole, resting at about its centre on two or three forked boughs driven into the ground on the river's bank. At the other end of this contrivance, which is weighted with stones, stands a man who holds a rope attached to it, the weight of the basket being sufficient to sink it beneath the water, even though it is partially counterpoised by the stones at the other end. At the great bridge at Basle a fisherman has established carplets between the piles, where the salmon pass, the privilege having cost him some five or six thousand francs, and it is believed to be a good speculation. The fishing with the large net is, of course, the most interesting as well as the most productive; it has, at the same time, all the alternations of excitement to recommend it. In the beautiful nights of spring and summer, if it be only moonlight, the salmon-fishers land upon a sandbank. Here they establish a temporary camp, light a fire, and set up something like a tent to protect it from the night air. Between their island and the middle of the deep water it is probable that the salmon will pass, a number of them together, in the form of a V or a horseshoe; and to watch for their coming one of the fishermen is perched on an ingenious but apparently insecure elevation, composed of poles forked at the top to afford him a seat.

From this the sentinel can discern the flashes which indicate the approach of the fish, and upon his giving the signal the boat disposes itself so as to intercept with the net the course of the swim. To the man who has the care of that side of the net which remains on shore belongs the post of confidence, since he has to secure it until the boat has turned with its draught of fish and brought the other side round to him with the salmon enmeshed in it. Frequently the fish will make such efforts that the strands of the net give way, and it is not unusual for them to strike at the fishermen with their tails while they are removing them from their captivity.

Altogether it is an exciting and also a profitable sport, which has in it enough of the picturesque to make an engraving of it interesting to many of our readers.

ALLEGED FAVORITISM.—The *Gazette* contains an appointment (to the colonelcy of a regiment) so utterly unjustifiable, so incomprehensibly bad, that we are almost forced to the conclusion that his Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief, at a loss to decide between conflicting claims, must have put the names of all the Generals on the list into a lottery, and drawn that of Major-General Morton Eden, to his own and that officer's intense astonishment. By no other means can we imagine such an appointment to be suggested. Major-General George Morton Eden entered the service in 1822, and his military career has been one of uninterrupted peace. He was promoted from the Scots Fusilier Guards when the regiment was on its way to the Crimea, and since then has held the command of the western district. This is, in one word, his history, and this his claim to the first-class reward for distinguished services, which the colonelcy of a regiment admittedly is. There have been appointments of men without any claims on the grounds of active service, which were yet not wholly unaccountable; but General Eden's nomination to the 50th Regiment is incomprehensible to a most perplexing extent. We exhaust every species of claim to such a reward when we enumerate the grounds upon which colonelcies have hitherto been bestowed. They are—1. Seniority on the list; 2. Seniority in the Army; 3. Distinguished service in the field; 4. Meritorious and efficient service in time of peace or in the colonies. If General Eden has been selected for the first reason, a mean and cowardly act has been done in passing over twenty-one Generals who stand before him. If he has been selected for the second, it is a mean and cowardly act to neglect the seventy-five Generals who were in the Army before he was. If he has received this substantial prize for the third reason, it is a most mean and cowardly proceeding to prefer him to—we will say at random—General Elliott, with his five Peninsular clasps, his Waterloo medal, and his Indian service—to Sir Thomas Franks or Sir Edward Lugard, both fresh from rendering able and substantial as well as gallant service in India—to Major-General Napier Jackson, with his ten clasps—to General Bell, or General Macpherson, or some fifty more men who have braved climate and battle-field, and who bear honourable scars upon their breasts. If General Eden has gained this reward for the fourth reason, meritorious service, it is mean and cowardly to neglect for him the fifty-eight Generals on the good-service list, for which he does not seem to have been thought eligible, although he is considered a fit recipient of the superior reward of a regiment. We shall even suggest a fifth reason, and suppose that it was thought right to give the Guards a turn, and appoint a General from that service to a colonelcy. But even here we are still perplexed; for if this were the actuating motive, it was mean and cowardly to pass over Lieutenant-General Colville, Lieutenant-General Stanhope, and Major-General Angerstein, who are all before General Eden. The more we turn the thing round, the more we examine it in various lights, the more we are puzzled to guess how on earth such an appointment could come to be made.—*Army and Navy Gazette.*

PROTESTANT WORSHIP IN SPAIN.—The Rev. A. J. D. D'Orsey has received the following letter in reply to a communication addressed to the Foreign Secretary:—"Foreign Office, May 3.—Sir, I am directed by Lord John Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, requesting to be informed whether you may rely on the support of her Majesty's Government if you confine your ministrations in Spain to British Protestant subjects, and officiate only in British Consulates to congregations of British subjects; and I am to state to you in reply that her Majesty's Government cannot protect you against the law of Spain, to which, when in that country, you, as well as all other British subjects, must necessarily conform; but her Majesty's Government will at all times use their influence with the Spanish Government with a view of obtaining liberty of worship for British subjects. I am, Sir, your most humble servant, WOODHOUSE.—The Rev. A. J. D. D'Orsey."

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 159.

THE FIGHT GOES OFF.

THE parliamentary week ending at two a.m., on Saturday morning last was to have been a great week in the House of Commons: a week of severe struggles, close divisions, and great results. After the division on the tea duties all the political seers prophesied to this effect:—"Next week," the Conservative quidnuncs said, "we shall fight again: at present we have only settled that the tea duties shall not be reduced. The great question of paper still remains to be discussed, and on that we shall battle at every step. We shall fight on the resolution in Committee on Monday; we shall contest the bringing up of the report on Tuesday; we shall oppose the second reading of the bill on Thursday." And every body expected that it would be so, and that we should have such a week of hot debate and close divisions, of battle and of strife, as we never had before. But, as will have been seen, we had nothing of the sort. On Monday the House was tolerably full, but before it met a rumour had gone forth that there would be no opposition to the resolution; indeed, we are confidently informed that so early as Saturday Mr. Bland had received official intimation that the resolution would be allowed to pass without a struggle. What induced the Conservative leaders to change their policy we cannot tell; perhaps they received hints that they would not be efficiently supported; perhaps, after mature consideration, they deemed that a future stage would be a better battle-ground. Perhaps—but it is useless to conjecture. Suffice it to say that there was no fight; only a little desultory talk, nothing more; and then the resolution passed *nemine contradicente* amidst the cheers of its supporters.

A ROW.

But on Tuesday, if we had no pitched battle, we had several fierce skirmishes. Some marvellously pungent talk, and scenes which, if it were not our duty to our readers faithfully to describe everything important that occurs in the House, we would, for the credit and honour of representative institutions, gladly let slip into oblivion. Duty, however, paramount duty, forbids; and therefore we proceed, as well as we can, to report what we saw and heard on that remarkable night. And, first, a few words to make the proceedings intelligible. On Monday, then, the resolution abolishing the paper tax, and sundry other resolutions effecting other changes, were passed in Committee. On the following day, according to universal precedent and immemorial custom, an order appeared on the paper entitled "Ways and Means—Report," meaning that the resolutions would be reported, ordered to be embodied in a bill, which bill would be brought in and read a first time. We have been particular in this statement, because Gladstone was charged during the night with undue haste, and an attempt to stop discussion by forcing on the report with unnecessary speed; whereas he did nothing unusual, nothing but what the forms of the House allowed, nothing but what all precedent sanctioned, and therefore nothing but what he was bound to do. Our experience in the House is somewhat extensive; our knowledge of its history much more so; and we venture to say that it is the universal practice to report resolutions on the day after they have passed Committee. Well, all this notwithstanding, it was resolved on Tuesday evening to oppose the bringing up of the report; and it was to be done in the manner following—first, to prolong the previous business by talking against time as much as possible, and then sturdily to insist upon the postponement of the report on the plea of the lateness of the hour. This was to be the policy, these the tactics. The announcement was whispered about before dinner, and every Conservative was exhorted to return. But, of course, the announcement could not be kept secret, and so the Ministerialists' whips also whispered into the ears of their friends. "Be sure you come back by ten," muttered the Opposition whips to every man as he passed, "as we are going in for the postponement of the Report." "Mind you are here early after dinner," whispered the Government whips, "for they mean to oppose us on the Report." And so, soon after nine, the members rapidly returned, and before ten there were between two and three hundred—nearly three than two—in the House. It was, however, noticeable that the Government had clearly a majority, and that the members of the Opposition who were conspicuous by their absence were for the most part the quiet respectable country gentlemen who form the pith and marrow of the Conservative party. They had been summoned, no doubt, but the fight was not to their taste. It was attractive to the young fellows, but your quiet country gentleman likes when he fights to be satisfied with the ground.

HOW IT BEGUN.

Well, then, at ten o'clock the House has again assembled, and in compact phalanxes the two parties set face to face. But at present all is quiet, for as yet the "notices" are not quite finished. At last, however, all are cleared off. The first "order" is called, and then the row begins. The first order of the day was "Tramway Bill (Ireland) Committee," a somewhat insignificant bill, proposed by Mr. Isaac Butt, a measure which at any time would have excited discussion amongst the Irish members, because all Irish bills do excite discussion; but a bill in which Englishmen, unless for some special ulterior purpose, could take but little interest in. "It is only an Irish row," they would have said, and then walked away, unless they chose to sit as spectators, as they often do on such occasions, to enjoy the fun. But on this occasion every man kept his place, and this poor Irish bill was the subject of a fiercer battle than surely ever gathered around such an insignificant measure before. Now, the cause of this was not because the members—English, Irish, or Scotch—cared the value of a single straw about the measure, but because the Conservatives saw in it a capital topic which, if they could prolong for an hour or two, would prevent the Chancellor of the Exchequer from bringing up his Report. And hence it was that the going into Committee was first opposed; that every successive clause was debated; that when Mr. Butt, bewildered by the fierce struggle which his poor bill had evoked, and hopeless of getting it safely through such a storm, proposed that "the Chairman do report progress, and ask to sit again," Lord Robert Cecil arose and insisted upon going on; that Mr. Disraeli backed the noble Lord; that Sir George Grey got up and made a speech; that Mr. Bentinck jumped upon his feet; that Lord Palmerston also took a part in the debate; and that there was such cheering, such groaning, such pungent, bitter language, such fierce action, and such fierce looks. It was not this miserable bill that evoked all this, but the report to come. Indeed, the House soon forgot that the bill was in question at all; and so the row went on until at last the Committee divided, and the obstructives thus far were defeated by 181 to 102, and the bill was postponed. This, then, is the outline of the proceedings upon this bill. But can we fill up this outline, or depict the scene which presented itself to the wondering stranger? We cannot do it at all, and will not attempt it. The graphic pen of Dickens, aided by the pencil of Doyle or Cruikshank, would fail, and how can we hope to succeed? Suffice it to say that the House was more like a mob of excited Irishmen for the time than a Senate House; that the noise was as if all the winds of Eolus had broken loose, and that the fierce looks and gesticulation of the audience and the bitter language and violent gesticulations of some of the speakers were more appropriate to the hustings than to an assembly of legislators. Well, now the bill is done with, and the Report is called. But will Government carry it in such a House—with such a mass of excited opponents? "Unquestionably not," said one; "the thing is impossible." And so it turned out, for after taking a single division, in which the Government was successful by 160 to 98, the Chancellor arose and announced that the consideration of the Report would be postponed until Thursday. Some of our readers may wonder why it was postponed, and may ask why, with such a majority, the Government did not persevere. The answer is that perseverance would have been useless. All the Government had done was to gain a victory upon the question that the House do *now* adjourn. In

another minute the motion for adjournment would have again been proposed, and then again and again, and unless Lord Palmerston could hope to weary out the minority it was quite useless to attempt to go on. This he could hardly do; and so he wisely gave in, satisfied with this show of strength.

A CHIP OF THE OLD BLOCK.

One of the principal actors in this memorable scene was Lord Robert Cecil. The noble Lord is a thorough-going Tory, one of the few specimens of the old genus—now almost extinct. On the whole, the noble Lord is unquestionably an able man, and when unexcited can talk reasonably well. That he can write well we all know, unless the report that he it was that wrote the severe article in the *Quarterly Review* upon Disraeli, and that he is one of the foremost contributors to the *Saturday Review*, is not true. But the noble Lord is excitable, and the bitter language in which he assailed the Chancellor of the Exchequer, though strictly within rules, was, as Sir George Grey reminded him, such as, happily, is seldom heard in the House. The noble Lord was certainly answerable for much of the passion which prevailed on this occasion; and it really would be advisable that, before he again takes part in the debates, he should take the counsel quietly offered by Mr. Gladstone, and "revise his vocabulary." It was whilst Lord Robert was speaking that the storm was at its height; and we shall not soon forget the astounding roar of cheers from the Conservatives which burst out when he described the Chancellor of the Exchequer's conduct as "that of an attorney, rather than a statesman," nor the indignant blast of groans with which it was answered.

THE LEADER OF HER MAJESTY'S OPPOSITION.

And, now, what was the conduct of Mr. Disraeli in this extraordinary scene? Well, if the truth must be told, it was neither polite nor fortunate. The Conservative leader was, we humbly venture to think, impolitic in the first place in giving sanction to this factious opposition. A leader of a great party should always steer clear of faction, for neither reputation nor influence is to be gained in such an arena. But, if he was impolitic in sanctioning this factious contest, he was still more so in the mode in which he did it. For example, what politic reason could be given for his rising to speak when the announcement of the adjournment had been made? The fight was over; the victory, such as it was, had been gained; members were on the wing; the excitement which had prevailed was rapidly subsiding, as it happily always does on such occasions amongst English gentlemen. Why should he have prolonged it? His object seemed to be to defend Lord Robert Cecil from the implied censure conveyed in the advice of Mr. Gladstone. But if this was his object he was not fortunate, for, in truth, he succeeded rather in damaging than defending; for, in his anxiety to throw his shield over the noble Lord, he unintentionally struck him a blow upon the head. For example—he began first by complimenting with singularly neat adroitness the noble Lord "for the efficiency of his powers of expression"—a phrase which had so obviously a double meaning that it really appeared at first as if the Speaker had intended under the cover of praise, to convey sarcasm. Of course the opponents of the noble Lord saw the ambiguity of the phrase, and cheered and laughed uproariously. But, as if this was not bad enough, Mr. Disraeli went on to congratulate the noble Lord upon his debating powers, and to express a hope that "he would soon again take a part in the debates of the House in which he had so greatly distinguished himself." Now, here was another most unfortunate *double entendre*; not meant as such, of course, but so obvious that the Liberals seized hold of it, and again accepted the phrase with such prolonged cheers and laughter that for the space of a minute or more Disraeli was kept standing upon his legs quite unable to proceed, and, as our readers may well suppose, not in a very enviable state of mind. Indeed, it now became obvious that the great leader was fretted, and worried, and excited, for, on resuming, he turned round on Gladstone, exclaiming in a manner, to say the least of it, not dignified, "It is all very well to bully a colleague, but there is one party which he could assure the Chancellor of the Exchequer that it would be impossible to bully, and that was the English House of Commons." We might go on longer in describing the scene, but time and space warn us that we must forbear.

We must, however, before we drop the curtain, ask how it was that the leader of the Opposition, after having excited his followers to prolong the discussion upon the Irish bill, and spoken in favour of the policy of delay, quietly, when the division came on, walked into the Government lobby? Can any of our readers, Liberal or Conservative, explain the policy of this singular desertion. Once upon a time a Conservative orator, in an attack upon a great statesman, brought before the House a graphic picture of a Turkish Admiral who went into action with sails set and streamers flying, and at the critical moment, when every one expected that he would begin the attack in aid of his ally, quietly went over to the enemy? May we not say now, "*Mutato nomine de te Facella narratur*?" But we drop the curtain, and, leaping over a week's unimportant proceedings (for be it remembered that, after all this noisy demonstration, the Report on Thursday night was not opposed), we come to the following Monday night's debate.

THE NEW MEMBER FOR SLIGO.

For a whole week we were kept on the tiptoe of expectation to hear Mr. Macdonough, the new member for Sligo, who was imported direct from the sister isle last year, and brought with him a splendid reputation for oratory: he was equal, if not superior, it was said, to Whiteside; and when he should condescend to give a specimen of his powers he would certainly astonish the House. When, therefore, Mr. Macdonough put a notice upon the paper great expectations were aroused, and everybody was anxious to hear the maiden speech of this great orator. He was to have spoken on Monday, the 6th, but failed. On Tuesday he would certainly rise, but again declined to show; and on Thursday, too, we were all disappointed; and it was not until Monday that this new Irish lion exhibited his powers; and then the bubble burst. Not, however, that Mr. Macdonough is a bad speaker; for, on the contrary, he is a very good one; and if we wanted a barrister to argue a case before an Irish Court we know not that we could do better than retain Mr. Macdonough; but he is not an orator, not even of the Irish type, and will never make any great impression upon the House.

A SELL.

One night last week Lord Ranelagh walked into the lobby, with a young lady on his arm. A division was on at the time, and the door of the House was shut. Whilst his Lordship and the lady were waiting who should come in but Mr. Whiteside; and what so natural as that his Lordship should introduce the lady to the celebrated defender of the unfortunate Mrs. Yelverton. And further, what so proper as that the polite Irish barrister (for a politer man than Mr. Whiteside does not live) should, when the door was opened, offer the lady his arm, and conduct her into the inner lobby to show her (as the custom is) the House through the glass door. Well, all this was done, and then the lady was again conducted back to Lord Ranelagh, and these three stood for some time chatting and laughing in the lobby. But what on earth does this stream of members rushing out of the House mean? And why do they walk round and round and stare so earnestly at this group? Well, the fact is that some waggish member as he passed, seeing Mr. Whiteside with a lady, had gone into the House and set it aloft that Mr. Whiteside was outside with Mrs. Yelverton, and this was the result. For five minutes the stream continued, until at last Lord Ranelagh discovered why they were so suddenly enveloped in a crowd, told the lady, who, bursting into a merry laugh, took the arm of his Lordship, was marched away, and the hon. members discovered that they had been "sold." And a capital sell it was.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 10.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE WAR IN AMERICA.

The Earl of DERBY inquired if the Government were about to take steps to prevent subjects of her Majesty from entering into the service of either of the belligerent parties in the contest about to take place in America? He understood that a proclamation to that effect was about to be issued.

Earl GRANVILLE said that it was the intention of the Government to issue a proclamation warning all subjects of her Majesty against any attempts or acts calculated to violate the neutrality in this unhappy contest which it was the intention of the Government to preserve.

The Earl of DERBY asked if British seamen on board privateers were taken prisoners and treated as pirates they would forfeit any right to protection from this country?

Earl GRANVILLE said that no doubt that would be the result of the proclamation.

SYRIA.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE brought the subject of Syria before the House; and especially sought to elicit from their Lordships an opinion to the effect that it was desirable, and consonant with the interests of Syria and of the authority of the Porte, that the occupation of the country should cease, as had been agreed, on the 5th of June next. The noble Lord moved resolutions in accordance with his remarks, which took a very wide range over the affairs of Turkey.

Lord WODEHOUSE, in reply, urged that it would be discourteous in the House to express any opinion which could imply a doubt of the fulfilment of his engagement by the Emperor of the French to withdraw his troops on June 5, which there was no reason to doubt would be done. With regard to the general question of the condition of the Turkish empire and Government, into which Lord Stratford had entered somewhat largely, he pointed out that all that could be done by the other Powers was to tender such advice as they thought calculated to promote reform and amelioration in the affairs of that country. Beyond this, a commission had been recently sent out to inquire into the financial condition of the Ottoman empire, which he trusted might lead to some satisfactory result.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE expressed his regret that the Government did not think it proper that the House should put on record its opinion on this matter, as he thought that their Lordships would be perfectly justified in doing, using the very guarded language employed by the noble Lord in his resolutions.

Earl GRANVILLE recommended the withdrawal of the resolutions; and, after some further conversation, in which Earl Grey and Lord Stratford took part, they were withdrawn, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. PEACOCK called attention to the affairs of Austria and Italy, and moved for any papers received from our Ambassador at Vienna describing the nature of the Constitution lately granted by the Emperor of Austria to the various provinces and subjects of his empire. The hon. gentleman argued in favour of a duality of kingdoms in Italy rather than one united Italian kingdom, and contended for the cession of Venetia in the first place, and next for the upholding of Austria as a great European check to the ambition of France.

Mr. ST. AUBYN urged that the rendering up of Venetia was essential to the unity of Italy, while it would prove advantageous and a relief to Austria herself. He was of opinion that the departure of the Pope from Rome was essential to the settlement of the Italian question.

Mr. B. COCHRANE contended that the policy pursued by the Government had left England without a single ally in Europe; all the other Powers were alienated from this country, while, as regarded the nominal alliance with France, we were actually arming against her.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in declining to produce the papers asked, referred to the change in the system of the government of Austria and for the adoption of representative and constitutional principles, and said that he could not but rejoice to see Austria entering on such a path. At the same time, owing to the jealousies of different nationalities in that empire, great difficulties were raised by the change, and especially in the case of Hungary; and it was not easy to reconcile the desires of the latter country for their own peculiar institutions with the unity of the empire. He could only hope that some means would be found of getting over these difficulties and of consolidating that ancient empire of Austria, with which we have been in long and intimate alliance. With regard to Venetia, which had been obtained by Austria in exchange for her former provinces in the Low Countries, and which she had found somewhat burdensome, he thought that not much had been gained by the change, and that Venetia was nearly as burdensome to Austria as she found her Belgian dependencies. Her rule in Venetia was most distasteful to the people, and her tenure there so insecure that Venetia could never add to the strength of Austria, while, as long as that occupation continued, it was an obstacle to any friendly relations between Italy and Austria. How this question was to be solved it was difficult to say; it was a question for Austria herself, and for the consideration of her new representative assembly. He himself must always feel the strongest wish for the prosperity and undivided strength of Austria.

SYRIA.

Sir J. FERGUSON called attention to certain papers recently presented to Parliament relative to the affairs of Syria. He asked whether her Majesty's Government intended to urge the adoption of the plan of her Majesty's Commissioner for the government of Syria upon the Sublime Porte, and moved for a copy of the final recommendations of the International Commission for the future government of the Lebanon. He accompanied the motion by a copious exposition of the Syrian question and of his view of the policy of France regarding Syria, which, he contended, had been most detrimental to the good government of the country; the object being, he said, to encourage it to lean upon France.

Lord J. RUSSELL stated the present position of affairs in Syria and the views of her Majesty's Government of the best solution of the difficult question as to the head of the Government of the Lebanon, respecting which differences of opinion had existed among the Commissioners, whose final report had been forwarded to Constantinople. He hoped, he said, that means might be found to improve the condition of the people of the Lebanon. There was this difficulty, that the Russian Government considered itself bound to take under its special protection the subjects of Turkey belonging to the Greek Church, while the French Government patronised the Roman Catholic subjects. The object of her Majesty's Government was to secure good government to all without distinction. With regard to the evacuation of Syria by the French troops, he had, he said, every reason to rely upon the good faith of the Emperor of the French. It was not in his power to produce the papers moved for.

Mr. LAYARD urged that, if it was desired that Syria should be well governed, the responsibility should be left to the Porte, since, if any other plan were taken up, and it should fail, no one would be responsible. He denied that there was any systematic oppression of the Christians by the Turkish authorities.

Lord DUFFERIN said that Maronites and Druses would live in perfect harmony if left alone. It was the Turks who were to be controlled, and the French troops should not be removed from Syria till some system of Government had been introduced.

After some remarks by Mr. Griffith and Mr. Freeland, the amendment was withdrawn.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into a Committee of Supply upon the Army Estimates, when certain votes were agreed to, after a long debate upon each. The Princess Alice's Annuity Bill was read a third time and passed. The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was brought up and agreed to, and likewise the report of the Committee of Supply.

The Lords' amendments to the Post-office Savings-banks Bill were agreed to.

Other bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, MAY 14.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

RAGGED SCHOOLS.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY, in moving for the evidence on which was founded the report of the Education Commissioners which related to Ragged Schools, drew attention to this subject, and quoted a number of statistics to impel the adverse report of the Commission and show the extent and value of this system of education.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE defended the Commissioners with great energy. Lord Portman and Earl Granville also spoke.

The House adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ADJOURNMENT.

Lord PALMERSTON stated that the House would adjourn on Friday (yesterday) to the following Thursday for the Whitsuntide recess.

MR. STEUART.

Mr. ROEBUCK laid before the House, as a matter of privilege, a very painful statement regarding the mental condition of Mr. Andrew Steuart, a member for the borough of Cambridge. About fifteen years ago Mr. A. Steuart suffered from brain fever, which left him subject to paroxysms of insanity at intervals, with this peculiarity, that he was aware when they were about to supervene; and on a recent occasion

he went to the keeper of a private lunatic asylum, asking to be taken in for treatment, which was not done until a proper legal certificate was given, stating that he was dangerous to himself as well as to others. Under such circumstances Mr. Steuart appeared in the House on the exciting occasion of the great party division of the 2nd instant, and voted on that division. He (Mr. Roebuck) thought that such a matter demanded inquiry. Somebody was to blame, and it ought to be known who was responsible. The Speaker had endeavoured by negotiation with the Lunacy Commissioners to prevent such a thing happening again, but had failed, and he (Mr. Roebuck) thought it necessary that some steps should be taken to prevent the recurrence of such a state of things. He moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the circumstances under which Mr. Steuart voted on the occasion in question.

After much discussion, during which several members spoke to the perfect sanity of Mr. Steuart on the 2nd inst.,

The SPEAKER assured the House that Mr. Roebuck entirely acquiesced in his (the Speaker's) wish that this matter should not be made public if due security were taken to prevent the recurrence of such an act. He then read a communication from the Commissioners in Lunacy, declining to interfere to prevent such an occurrence in future unless called on by a legally constituted authority.

The motion (although offered to be withdrawn) was then negatived.

THE BUDGET.

On the motion for the second reading of the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill,

Mr. MACDONOUGH pointed out that the bill repealing the paper duties, which had been rejected by the Lords last year, had been now annexed to a bill of supply, and urged that no successful attempt had ever been made to take such a course; and that such a mode of endeavouring to force on the Lords a bill distasteful to them was as much a breach of their privileges as that assembly altering a money bill would be of those of the Commons. The hon. and learned gentleman quoted a series of precedents which, he urged, were opposed to such a course.

Sir J. GRAHAM said that the discussion of the Budget had now narrowed to the constitutional question. He had come to the conclusion last year that the Lords in rejecting the bill repealing the duty on paper had exercised an undoubted privilege which they possessed; but he as decidedly questioned the policy of their course in refusing assent to a bill relating to finance on financial grounds; it was such an innovation on established formula from the Revolution down that he thought the equally-constituted right of the Commons to include impositions and remissions of taxation in one bill should be adopted, with a view to check any attempt at invading their independence. The right hon. gentleman quoted precedents in support of the course now taken by the Government. He also showed that the sole power of dealing with questions of finance by the Commons had been weakened by the practice of making taxes perpetual, and also by the custom which had crept in of placing items of taxation or remission in separate bills. The present bill was only carrying out the resolution of the House, which claimed the right of choosing the mode, the measure, and the time of dealing with money bills.

Lord J. MANNERS said Sir J. Graham had not answered the call made by Mr. Macdonough for any instance in which the House of Lords having rejected a bill, the Commons had sent it back to them tacked to a supply bill. Lord John went on to argue that every fresh duty repealed would have the effect of riveting the taxes retained, and the duty on paper, he insisted, had not, in the opinion of the country, an equal claim to remission compared with other taxes.

The debate was continued by Sir Francis Goldsmid, Mr. Rolt, and Mr. Collier.

Mr. WHITESIDE replied to Sir J. Graham, who, he said, had argued that what the House of Commons could not do directly they might attempt to do indirectly. The object of this bill was to invite the House of Peers to consider most respectfully the opinion of the House of Commons. It was the privilege of the Commons to originate taxation, but it was the privilege of the Lords to consider the condition of the country and the state of affairs throughout the world. Was it then just, or constitutional, or reasonable to send them a bill which made it impossible for them to bestow that consideration, and coerced them, to pass or reject the bill, which was insulting to the Lords?

Lord J. RUSSELL remarked that all Mr. Whiteside's ingenuity could not argue away the best privileges of that House. The questions were whether the House was justified by the law of Parliament in embodying the several resolutions in one bill, and, if so, whether it was right to exercise that power. He insisted that the House had, in effect, last year asserted the power, which, he showed, rested upon precedents as well as principle. As to the expediency of the present measure, admitting that last year the Lords might think themselves justified in taking an extreme course, for which there was no precedent, by allowing that extraordinary act to stand the House of Commons would, in effect, admit the other House to equal functions in imposing taxes upon the people. On the subject of the Budget he argued that the abolition of duties had the effect of improving the general revenue, and there was every reason to expect that the same result would follow a remission of the paper duty. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had applied his great talents to the benefit of the people of this country, and he believed their gratitude for his efforts would stifle all the accusations of party.

Lord R. CECIL, who spoke amid much interruption, strongly condemned the course of proceeding of that House towards the Peers, upon whom, he said, they were now making a most unjust attack. All the main questions of the day were now becoming financial measures, and if the Commons interposed its privileges in all these measures the functions of the House of Lords would be so cramped and limited that it would be excluded from the arena of legislative deliberation.

Mr. DU CANK moved the adjournment of the debate. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER objected to further delay. No issue was raised, he said, or could be raised on the second reading of the bill, and great public inconvenience would result from the discussion being protracted.

Mr. DISRAELI insisted that caution and deliberation were required in considering the questions involved in the bill; and he was not aware that any public inconvenience could arise from delay. The bill included the whole financial scheme of the Government; yet the Chancellor of the Exchequer had said there was no issue before the House when it was asked to read the bill a second time.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that no one had opposed the second reading of the bill, that many occasions would offer for discussing its details, and he saw no reason for adjourning the debate.

Upon a division the motion for adjournment was negatived by 247 to 164.

Mr. BENTINCK then moved that the House do adjourn. Lord PALMERSTON resisted the motion, which was likewise negatived upon a division by 233 to 145.

Colonel DICKSON moved the adjournment of the debate.

Lord PALMERSTON upon this gave way, and the debate was adjourned till Thursday.

The remaining business having been disposed of the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, MAY 11.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SPAIN AND SAN DOMINGO.

Lord WODEHOUSE said, in reply to Lord Brougham, that the Spanish Government had not yet taken any final resolution with regard to the annexation of San Domingo. The English Government had received no information to the effect that the offer of sovereignty to Spain met with the concurrence of the people. In any case slavery would not be introduced into the island.

The Princess Alice's Annuity Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE MARRIAGE LAW IN IRELAND.

Sir H. CAIRNS moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the Law of Marriage in Ireland. He thought that, in order to secure a system of valid marriages, the first step to be attained was the taking care that no marriages took place to which there were lawful impediments; next, that there should not be undue precipitancy in the performance of the ceremony; and, while no obstacle should be thrown in the way of those who are satisfied with a civil contract, every facility should be given for the performance of religious ceremonies; and, lastly, that due means should be established for the authentication of marriages. All these were incident to the system of marriage in the Established Church in England and Ireland. But Protestant Dissenters in Ireland were not included in that system. In 1781 an Act was passed by which marriages by Protestant Dissenting ministers in their own congregations were made valid; but as regarded mixed marriages, it had been held since 1842 that when celebrated by a Presbyterian minister they were invalid. In 1844 an Act was passed which enabled Presbyterian ministers to celebrate mixed marriages under a system of licensing which it established; but all other Dissenters were deprived of the benefit of the Act of 1781, and only left the alternative of a marriage at which the registrar was bound to attend, thus throwing an obstacle in the way of the religious ceremony. This required a remedy, and was a fit subject for inquiry. The mode of conducting civil contracts of marriage by the registrar also required amendment. As regarded persons who were Roman Catholics, the law had not fettered the power of a priest to celebrate marriage in any way and in such manner as he pleased, although in practice there was no irregularity in the mode of conducting. But with regard to mixed marriages celebrated by a Roman Catholic priest, an Act of Parliament provided that any marriage, either of the parties to which had within twelve months declared themselves to be Protestant, was invalid.

This was a matter which required consideration and alteration, by putting Roman Catholic priests on the same footing with reference to these marriages as other ministers in Ireland.

Mr. WHITESIDE supported the motion for inquiry.

Mr. SCULLY moved an amendment to the effect that a Royal Commission be issued to inquire into the marriage law of England, of Ireland, and of Scotland respectively, stating that his object was not to oppose but to extend the inquiry which was sought.

Mr. CARDEWELL stated that he understood the object of the motion was to inquire into the propriety of extending to all the other classes of Dissenters in Ireland the benefits which the Act of 1844 conferred on the Presbyterians, and also to see how the disability cast on the Roman Catholics by that Act might be removed; and, therefore, he most readily acceded to the Committee.

Mr. SCULLY withdrew his amendment, and the motion was agreed to.

COUNT OUT.

Mr. ANGERSTEIN was moving for certain reports relating to Woolwich Dockyard when the House was counted out at ten minutes to seven.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW TRIALS IN CRIMINAL CASES.

Mr. BURT moved the second reading of the New Trials in Criminal Cases Bill, the principle of which had been affirmed by the House in 1858. He contended that there was now an appeal in that class of criminal cases which ranked as misdemeanours, while in cases of felony it was denied. The bill proposed to abolish this distinction between misdemeanours and felonies, and to enact that if a person was tried in the Queen's Bench, the highest criminal court, for felony, an appeal should be allowed; and also to extend the powers of that Court to bring criminal cases before them from other Courts by "certiorari."

Sir G. C. LEWIS contended that the conviction of innocent persons in law in criminal cases were sufficient. The object now was to assimilate the principle of criminal and civil cases. In most cases ordinary prisoners were unable to pay the costs of appeal, and that would render the proposed measure nugatory, unless it contained a provision that the costs should be paid by the State; and in that case every prisoner would appeal, and the result would be that the charge for the administration of criminal justice would become excessive. Again, it was now difficult to get prosecutors and witnesses to attend in the first trial of criminal cases, and in the instance of second trials the difficulty would be greatly increased. He moved the rejection of the bill.

After some observations from Mr. M'ANON, the second reading was negatived.

PIERS AND HARBOURS.

Mr. PAUL moved the second reading of the Piers and Harbours Bill, which was agreed to.

Other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH called attention to the recent proclamation of her Majesty regarding British subjects taking part with either of the belligerent parties in America, and said he thought that the proclamation ought to have been as explicit as a similar declaration made by the Emperor of the French.

Earl GRANVILLE said the wording of the French declaration meant that a blockade should be of such a nature that it could be efficiently carried out by one State against another. But in this instance the Northern States had declared a blockade of all the Southern ports, which it was totally out of their power to carry out efficiently. With regard to articles contraband of war, it was difficult to define them, for with the progress science was making there was no saying distinctly what articles would be contraband of war.

The Earl of DERBY thought the proclamation went further than was necessary when it warned the subjects of her Majesty against entering as privateers in the service of the States. He expressed a hope that the Government would attempt to come to some general understanding with the American Governments since the North had declared a blockade of all the Southern ports, which they had no power to enforce.

Lord BROTHAM said he should like to see privateering abolished by the law of nations.

The Lord CHANCELLOR said that any British subjects entering into the service of either of the belligerents would be answerable to the laws of their own country; but, as privateers could not be treated as pirates, any one treating them as such would be guilty of murder.

After some remarks from Lord Cairns and Lord Kingsdown, the subject dropped.

PRINCESS ALICE'S ANNUITY BILL.

This bill was read a third time and passed. The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CUSTOMS AND INLAND REVENUE BILL.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of this bill was resumed by Mr. DU CANK, who argued that the paper duty was not a tax the remission of which was much desired by the people, and, if abolished, it was not such a financial proposition as would be most beneficial to the country.

Sir W. HASTINGS expressed for himself and for Mr. Walpole (absent through indisposition) concurrence with the Government on the constitutional question raised at this stage of the bill. He had voted with Mr. Horsman, and could not, consistently with that vote, deny the existence of a surplus or object to the course proposed.

General FEE said it was impossible to establish the existence of a surplus without knowing the exact financial relations of the home and Indian Governments.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER denied that the temporary uncertainty on this subject affected the surplus. Passing over personal remarks to himself, and remarking that Mr. Disraeli had agreed with Mr. Walpole to the report of the Committee on Privileges, he proceeded to reply to the speech of Mr. Macdonough on a previous night, whom he complimented on his ability, but at the same time reminded him that precedents had been variously applied, according to circumstances; and when they talked of precedents they should consider the principle they had in view. To bring together in one measure the whole financial scheme in order that its relative bearings might be apparent was, he thought, rather a benefit than otherwise to the House of Lords, which had never abandoned the right of amending financial measures, although they did not exercise that power; and that doubt might exist as to their constitutional authority to alter such bills. The right hon. gentleman then proceeded to argue that it remained with the House of Commons alone to adjust the charges and supplies of the year—that the right of granting aids and supplies to the Crown was in that House, both as to the mode, the manner, and the time. That was their inherent privilege, which they could not part with, and there was no other practical or constitutional question at issue.

Mr. HORSMAN contended that the Lords were not fairly treated by the Government in sending them the whole financial scheme of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in one measure; and asserted that they would be perfectly justified in rejecting it, or at all events, though accepting the proposition, in sending the bill back again to the Commons in a different form. He censured in severe terms the vacillating conduct of Lord Palmerston, who, it was evident, was coerced by his Chancellor of the Exchequer to adopt the present course. If the Lords declined to pass the measure in its present shape, an appeal to the country was unavoidable. It was more than probable that the people, who were by no means satisfied with the Liberal party for their conduct in reference both to reform and finance, would seize the opportunity of returning a new House of Commons, as unlike the present as possible. It needed no prophet to inform them that an appeal to the country under such circumstances would raise a cry throughout the land which would prove the knell of the noble Lord's Government, disperse his followers, and enthrone his opponents in power.

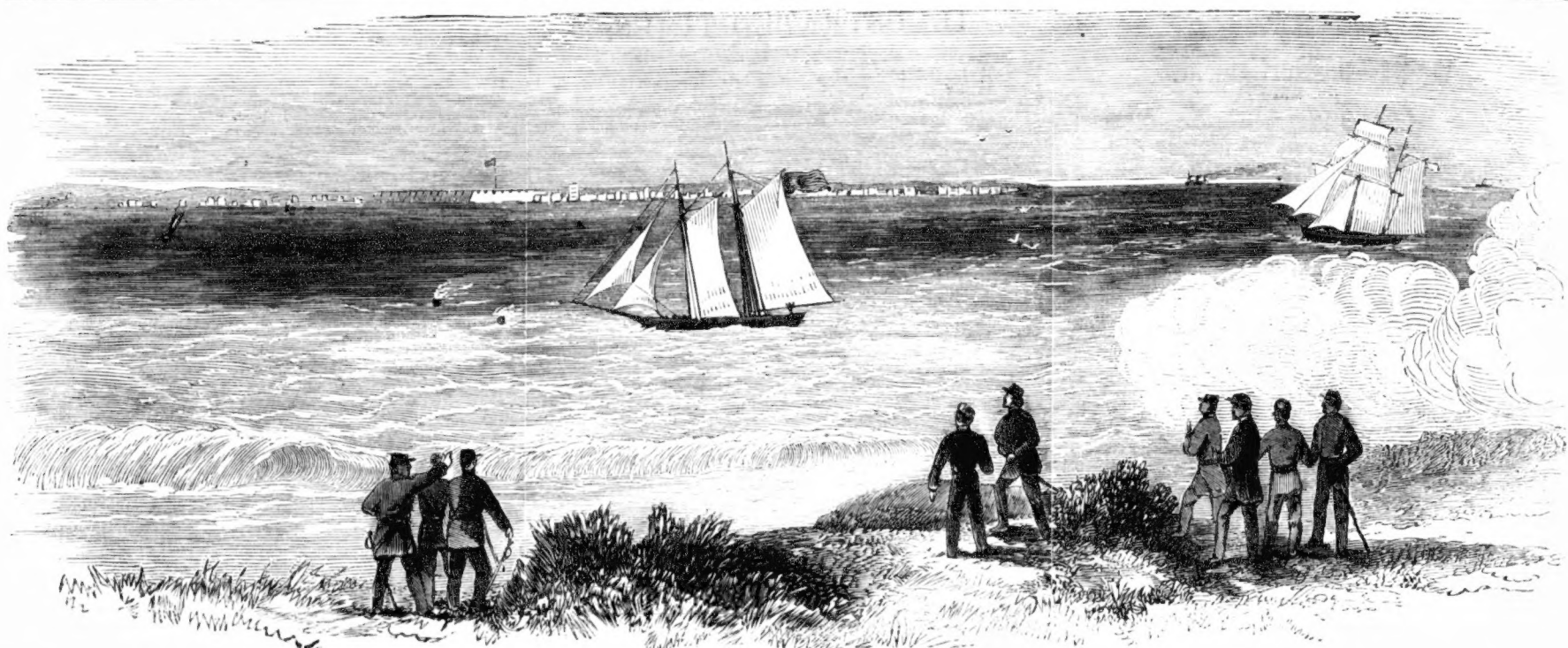
Mr. FULLER supported the second reading of the bill.

Mr. NEWBOLT opposed the principle of including all the resolutions in one bill, as injuriously affecting the rights of the House of Lords.

After considerable discussion,

Lord PALMERSTON, having reviewed the arguments used against the financial scheme of the Government, charged Mr. Horsman with endeavouring to sow the seeds of discord in the Cabinet, as well as between that House and the House of Lords. The noble Lord vindicated the measure of the Chancellor of the Exchequer from the attacks which had been levelled against it, and expressed his conviction that it would be accepted by the House of Lords in a much more conciliatory spirit than was predicted by some hon. gentlemen who had evinced their unreasonable hostility to the Government.

Mr. DISRAELI charged the noble Lord and his Government with straining the Constitution of the country in the way they were treating this great financial question. It was impossible for the Opposition to meet the measure with a negative, because they had already approved of one important portion of it—namely, the income-tax reduction. He, however, protested against being supposed to acquiesce in the measure generally. On the contrary, the party with whom he acted entertained the greatest objection to the policy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in dealing with the finances of the country in so unprecedented a manner. The bill was then read a second time.



THE WAR IN THE UNITED STATES.—THE SCHOONER SHANNON FIRED AT FROM THE BATTERY ON MORRIS ISLAND, CHARLESTON HARBOUR.

THE BATTERY IN CHARLESTON HARBOUR FIRING ON THE SHANNON.

OUR Engraving represents the recent attack on the schooner Shannon, which, laden with ice, was fired at by the battery on Morris Island, Charleston harbour. It was late in the afternoon that the event occurred which may be said to have inaugurated the hostilities between the South and the North. At first it was supposed to be mere practice-shots proceeding from the battery, but those among the spectators who were provided with glasses could see that the object of attack was a schooner, although what was the mission of the vessel was not immediately determined. It would appear that at about four p.m. a schooner was seen beating up the channel, and it was surmised that she had no pilot on board, since she failed to give the usual signal to the guard-boat. As she kept on her way in the course for Fort Sumter, Fort Morris battery fired a shot across her bows. Upon this, without altering her course, she displayed the stars and stripes. When she came abreast of the Mortar Battery she was hit by some very heavy shot, which were, however, not aimed at her. She kept on until a shell burst close to her rudder, when she hove to in great haste.

Major Anderson, who had been watching the whole affair through his glass, immediately commissioned Captain Seymour and Lieutenant Snyder to go over at once to Morris Island to seek some explanation of the firing, and to obtain permission to visit the schooner. This was granted, and they immediately went on board whence, after remaining for some time, they returned to the fort, and the schooner put to sea. It had been blowing a gale for several days, and the bay was white with foam, so that, although a coast steamer was sent in pursuit, she was unable to find the vessel. It was believed in Charleston that the schooner was laden with provisions for Fort Sumter, and, although it soon became rumoured that she had a cargo of ice on board nothing would divest the people of the belief that she was the *avant courier* of a fleet which was on the way, and that the raising of the United States' flag was well understood by Major Anderson.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER.

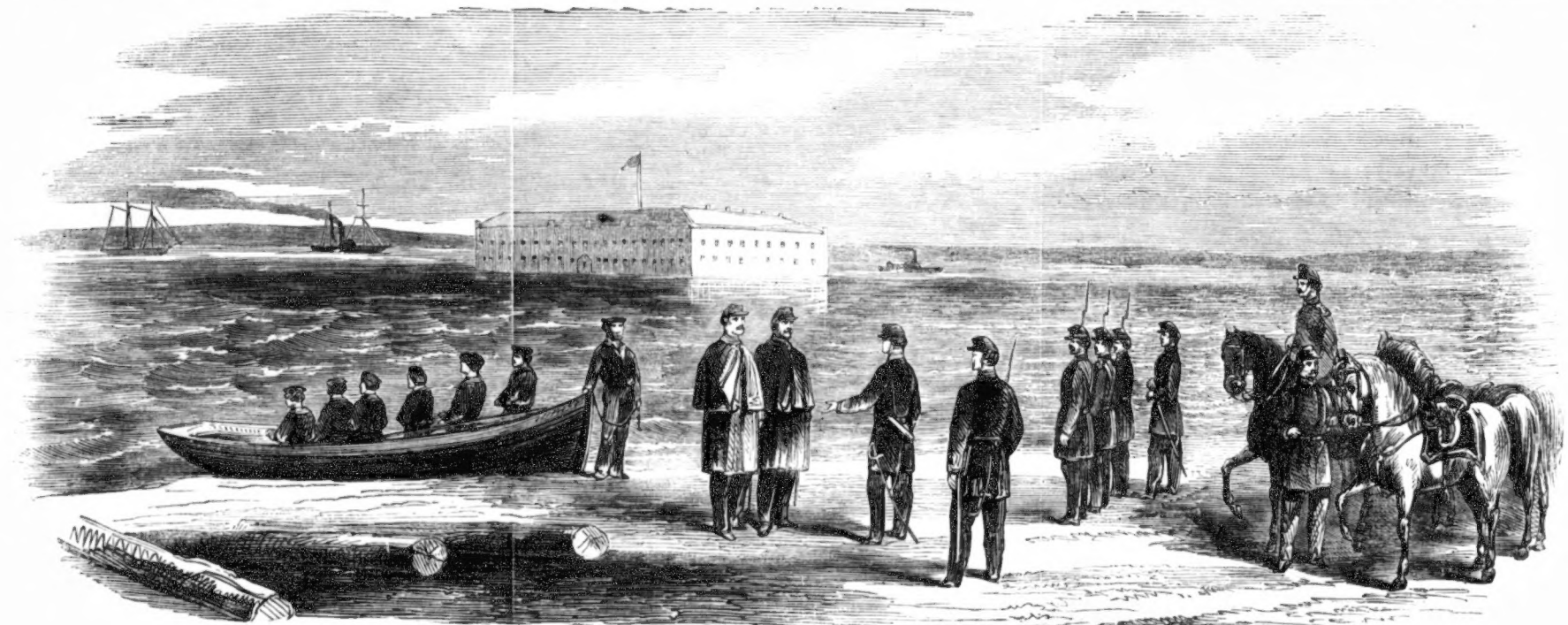
IN previous numbers of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES full particulars have been given of the bombardment and surrender of Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbour. As an accompaniment to the Illustrations



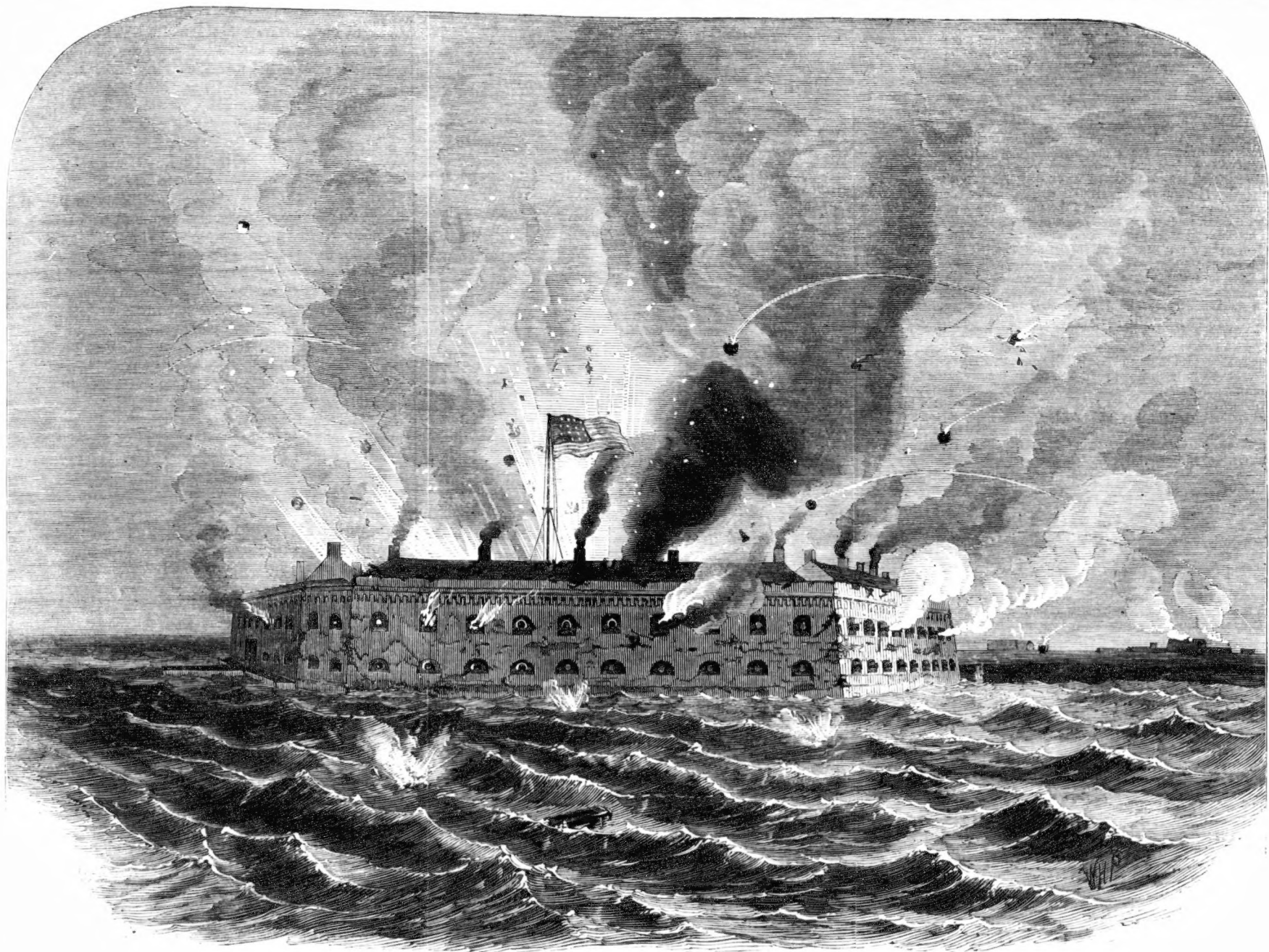
GENERAL BEAUREGARD, COMMANDANT OF THE FORTS AND TROOPS AT CHARLESTON.
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY QUINBY.)

tions which we this week publish from Sketches by American artists, it will be sufficient, therefore, to describe the fort itself, and to furnish some few additional particulars of the bombardment which have since reached this country. At a distance, Fort Sumter is said to bear some resemblance to Fort Paul at Sebastopol. It is a truncated pentagon, with three faces armed—the side towards Morris Island being considered safe from attack, as the work was only intended to resist an approach from the sea. It is said to have cost altogether more than £200,000 sterling. The walls are of solid brick and concrete masonry, built close to the edge of the water, 60 feet high, and from 8 to 12 feet in thickness, and carry three tiers of guns on the north, east, and west exterior sides. Its weakest point is on the south side, where the masonry is not protected by any flank fire to sweep the wharf. The work is designed for an armament of 140 pieces of ordnance of all calibres. Two tiers are under bombproof casemates, and the third or upper tier is en barbette. The lower tier is intended for 42-pounder paixhans guns; the second tier for eight-inch and ten-inch columbiads, for throwing solid or hollow shot; and the upper tier for mortars and guns. But only seventy-five are mounted. Eleven paixhans guns are among that number, nine of them commanding Fort Moultrie. Some of the columbiads are not mounted. Four of the 32-pounder barbette guns are on pivot-carriages, and others have a sweep of 180 degrees. The walls are pierced everywhere for musketry. The magazine contains several hundred barrels of gunpowder, and a supply of shot and shell. The garrison was amply supplied with water from artificial wells. The war garrison of the fort ought to be at least 600 men; but only 79 were within its walls, with the labourers—109, all told—at the time of the attack.

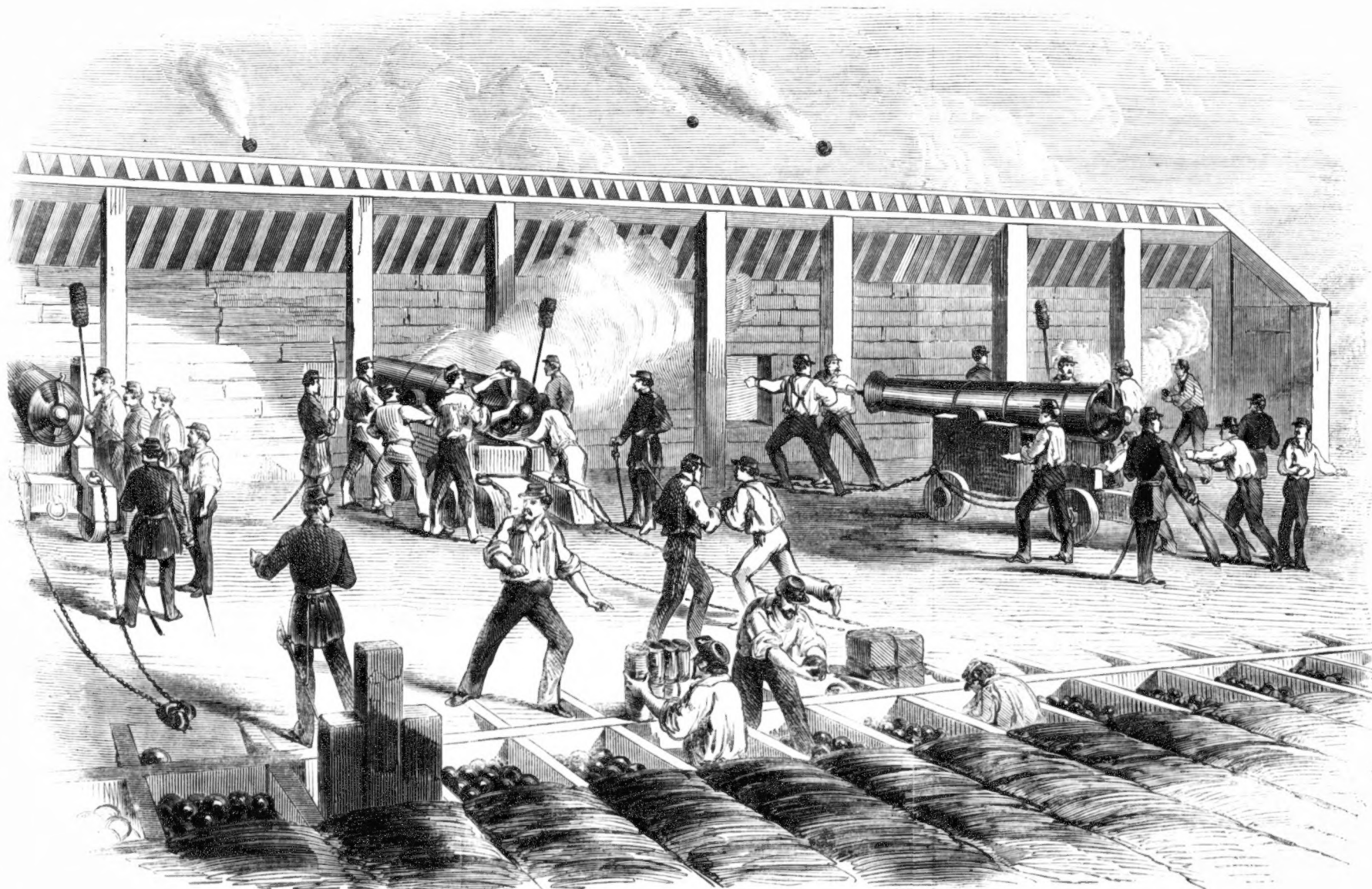
The walls of the fort since the bombardment show dents on all sides, the effect of the shots fired against it. In no instance was any approach made to a breach, and the greatest damage, at one of the angles on the south face, does not extend more than two feet into the masonry, which is of very fine brick. The parapet is, of course, damaged, but the casemate embrasures are uninjured. The granite copings suffered more than the brickwork, and the stone split up and splintered where it was struck. The ingenuity of the defenders was evident even here. They had no mortar with which to fasten up the stone slabs they had adapted as blinds to the windows of the unprotected south side; but Major Anderson or his subordinate, Captain Foster, had



ARRIVAL AT CUMMING'S POINT OF A BOAT FROM FORT SUMTER WITH A FLAG OF TRUCE.



BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER, CHARLESTON HARBOUR.—(FROM A SKETCH TAKEN SHORTLY BEFORE THE SURRENDER.)



SCENE ON BOARD THE FLOATING BATTERY IN CHARLESTON HARBOUR DURING THE BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER.

closed the slabs in with lead, which he procured from some water-piping, and had rendered them proof against escalade, which he was prepared also to resist by extensive mines laid under the wharf and landing-place, to be fired by friction-tubes and lines laid inside the work. He had also prepared a number of shells to serve as hand-grenades, with friction-tubes and lanyards, when hurled down from the parapet on his assailants.

Exclusive of the burning of the quarters and the intense heat, there was no reason for a properly-handled and sufficient force to surrender the place. It is needless to say Major Anderson had neither one nor the other. He was in all respects most miserably equipped. His guns were without screws, scales, or tangents, so that his elevations were managed by rude wedges of deal, and his scales marked in chalk on the breech of the guns, and his distances and bearings scratched in the same way on the side of the embrasures. He had not a single fuse for his shells, and he tried in vain to improvise them by filling pieces of bored-out pine with caked gunpowder. His cartridges were out, and he was compelled to detail some of his few men to make them out of shirts, stockings, and jackets. He had not a single mortar, and he was compelled to the desperate expedient of planting long guns in the ground at an angle of forty-five degrees, for which he could find no shell, as he had no fuses which could be fired with safety. He had no sheers to mount his guns, and chance alone enabled him to do so by drifting some large logs down with the tide against Sumter. Finally, he had not even one engine to put out a fire in quarters. Had Major Anderson been properly provided, so that he could have at once sent his men to the guns, opened fire from those in barbette, thrown shell and hot shot, kept relays to all his casemates, and put out fires as they arose from red-hot shot or shell, he must have driven the troops off Morris Island, burnt out Fort Moultrie, and silenced the enemies' fire. His loss might have been considerable; that of the Confederates, however, must have been very great.

GENERAL BEAUREGARD.

THE present Commandant of the forts and troops in Charleston, South Carolina, Brigadier-General Peter G. T. Beauregard, was appointed by the Southern Congress to that important post the latter end of February, and entered upon the duties of his commission on the 4th of March. He is a native of Louisiana, and was, until recent events induced him to resign his commission, high in the Corps of Engineers of the United States' Army.

General Beauregard enjoys a considerable reputation in the States as an able engineer, and as a masterly strategist and tactician. He has seen considerable service, and was promoted for the gallant conduct and the ability he displayed during the Mexican War. His appointment as Commandant at Charleston gave great satisfaction to the Confederacy, and the energy which he has shown since his entrance upon his arduous duties has inspired the troops in and around Charleston with increased confidence. He is described as a squarely-built, lean man, of about forty years of age, with broad shoulders and legs "made to fit" a horse. He is of middle height, and his head is covered with thick hair, cropped close, and showing the bumps, which are reflective and combative, with a true Gallic air at the back of the skull; the forehead, broad and well-developed, projects somewhat over the keen, eager dark eyes; the face is very thin, with very high cheekbones, a well-shaped nose, slightly aquiline, and a large, rigid, sharply-cut mouth, set above a full fighting chin.

THE IRON FLOATING-BATTERY ON CUMMING'S POINT, MORRIS ISLAND.

DURING the bombardment of Fort Sumter a continuous fire was kept up from the iron floating-battery at Cumming's Point, distant only 1500 yards from the object of attack. This battery consists for the most part of yellow-pine logs placed as vertical uprights. The roof, of the same material, slopes from the top of the uprights to the sand facing the enemy; over it are dovetailed bars of railroad iron, of the T pattern, from top to bottom, all riveted down in the most secure manner. On the front the railroad iron roof and incline present an angle of about 30 degrees. There are three portholes with iron shutters. When opened by the action of a lever the muzzles of the columbiads fill up the space completely. The columbiad guns with which this battery is equipped bear on the south wall of Sumter at an angle. The inclined side of the battery has been struck by six shots, the effect of two of which is enough to demonstrate that the fire of the guns on barbette at Fort Sumter would have been destructive. The columbiad is a piece of ordnance very thick in the breech, and lightened off gradually from the trunnions to the muzzle. The platforms were rather light, but the carriages were solid and well made, and the elevating screws or hitches of the guns were in good order. The mortars are of various calibre and descriptions, mostly 8-inch and 10 inch; and it is said there were seventeen of them in position and working against the fort, and that thirty-five guns were from time to time directed against it.

DEATH OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD, K.G.

THE Duke of Bedford, who has for some months past been in declining health, expired on Tuesday afternoon at Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire, shortly after two o'clock. Lord John Russell and Mr. F. H. Russell were summoned by telegraph at an early hour, and arrived at Woburn in time to be present at the Duke's death-bed.

The late Right Hon. Francis, seventh Duke and Earl of Bedford, Marquis of Tavistock, Baron Russell of Thornhau, and Baron Howland of Streatham, in the county of Surrey, in the peerage of England, was the eldest son of John, sixth Duke, by his first marriage with the Hon. Georgiana Elizabeth Byng, second daughter of George, fourth Viscount Torrington. He was born May 13, 1788, and married, August 8, 1808, Lady Anna Maria Stanhope, eldest daughter of Charles, third and late Earl of Harrington, by whom, who died in July, 1857, his Grace leaves issue an only son, William, Marquis of Tavistock, now Duke of Bedford. The deceased Peer was educated at Westminster School, whence he removed to Trinity College, Cambridge, to complete his studies. Before he graduated as M.A., in 1808, he had gone the tour of Europe, as customary in those days. On his return to England he entered the House of Commons as M.P. for Bedfordshire, which county he represented in six consecutive Parliaments, until he was summoned, in December, 1832, to the House of Lords in his father's barony of Howland. The late Duke, during his public career in the Lower House, voted on all occasions with the Whig party; and, although an unfrequent speaker in the House of Peers, invariably supported the views and measures of the Whig Governments. On the death of his father, in October, 1839, he succeeded to the dukedom. In 1852 he was appointed Special Deputy Warden of the Stannaries, and on the death of the late Earl De Grey he was made Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire. In 1846 he was made a member of the Privy Council, and the year following a Knight of the Order of the Garter. On the death of Lord Macaulay he became High Steward of Cambridge.

By his death the extensive estates belonging to the house of Russell, in Bedfordshire, Devonshire, Herts, Cambridgeshire, and Middlesex, as well as the titular honours, devolve upon his only son, William, born in 1809.

THE SUICIDE ON PRIMROSE-HILL.—The jury empanelled to inquire into the death of Mr. Robert Goreing, who committed suicide by shooting himself on Primrose-hill, met again on Monday. Several additional witnesses were called, with the view to ascertain the condition of deceased's mind immediately preceding death; after which the jury returned a verdict of "Felo de se."

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from the celebrated picture by Frederick Goodall, A.R.A.

With the ILLUSTRATED TIMES of Saturday next, May 25, will be issued a Large and highly-finished Engraving from the above popular picture, carefully printed on superfine paper. The price of this Engraving, including the Number of the Paper, will be 4d.; or free by post for five stamps.

MAP OF NORTH AMERICA.

Copies of the Large and carefully-engraved Map of North America, recently issued in connection with the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, may still be had. This excellent Map shows alike the Free and Slave States of the American Union, together with the entire of the British Possessions on the North American Continent. Price, with Number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, 4d.; or free by post for five stamps.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1861.

RADICALISM IN PARLIAMENT.

THE debate on the Budget is useful in one respect at least: it sheds additional light on the position of parties, and repeats the lesson which the country appears to be a long time in learning, that the Government is controlled by a knot of Radical politicians in the House of Commons. Who these members are we need not say; but this much may be observed of them—that, while they are not very numerous, they are nearly all *tail*. Those amongst them who have any pretension to ability are singularly few; while not one is to be dignified by the title of statesman, unless we find another name for men like Palmerston, Russell, Derby, Lyndhurst, Gladstone, and others beside, who bring something more than talent and obstinacy to the councils of the empire. And this is not all. The few men of mark amongst the Radical party are not only destitute of the education, experience, and sobriety necessary for the government of a country, but they are afflicted by a dogma amounting to disease, which often cripples their views of domestic affairs, and shuts them out of all consideration when European affairs come to be discussed. These, be it remembered, are the *chiefs* of the Radical party—they constitute the small head, after which comes the long, unreasoning, rattling tail. In the Cabinet they would not be tolerated; there is no post of high importance which one of them could hold for a month, if only on account of their impracticability and that tendency to domineering which has marked the demagogical mind from the foundation of the world. And yet, this is the party—inferior in intellect, in experience, in numbers, and in the confidence of the country—which, if it does not govern us, confuses good government, subordinating the better elements in our Legislature.

How this is accomplished is notorious enough to have been expounded for the admiration of the French in the *Journal des Débats*. It is not a new stratagem. It has been practised in the camp, the senate, and the vestry over and over again, with more or less success, and more or less disaster to everybody concerned. A violent little party, too weak to be of any importance by itself, comes in between two strong parties who are or who fancy themselves opposed, and by every means keep the breach open. So long as the contest for power goes on the assistance of the violent little party is of value, and it leads its support from time to time to that side which promises it most advantages. Nobody can doubt that these are the tactics of the Radicals. Indeed, we have had it on their own confession that they do not care whether Whigs or Conservatives are in power so long as, by persuading one party or clapping the screw on the other, they carry their own objects. Political power they will have; whether they share it with Lord Palmerston or Mr. Disraeli is a matter of indifference. Of course they prefer Lord Palmerston (though they know he is as conservative as nine-tenths of the gentlemen who sit opposite him) because he is called Liberal, and is the most popular statesman of his time; but they would prefer Disraeli and the ballot before Lord Palmerston without it, though he ruled England with all the strength and wisdom of their favourite, the great Protector.

It may be imagined, perhaps, as the Radicals sometimes assert for themselves, that Mr. Bright's party is of essential value, by standing between the two great parties in the State, and seizing advantages from either on behalf of the people. Such a position is possible, no doubt, for a time; but a minority no sooner becomes powerful in this way than it becomes tyrannical. Politics, like all things in which men engage, are as much governed by the vices as the virtues of mankind, and cliques no more than individuals can escape their natural operation. However, we have not to deal with the probabilities of such a position but the facts, as exhibited in the case of Mr. Bright and his followers. We will not ask on this occasion what the existing Government has gained by their support, but we should like to know how the country—how even that section to which they belong—has benefited by their legislative operations of late. Their support of Louis Napoleon, a military despot who saddles this country with expenses enormously in excess of its natural wants, is one of the most monstrous things that history had ever to record; but we do not accuse them of failing to put down war any more than we should expect them

to arrest the course of that satellite which appears to govern their notions on the subject. Nor do we taunt them with the rupture of their model Republic; because, in the first place, it is no new discovery that they confound liberty, which is strength, with license, which is rottenness; and, secondly, because the institutions of the United States might have been infinitely better than they were, and yet slavery must have proved fatal sooner or later. Of course we make this reservation, that the license of American institutions in general had the effect of placing at the head of affairs men with all Bright's blustering demagogism without half his honesty or a tithe of his tact and courage; and to cowardice and turpitude half the disasters which have overtaken America are due. To leave these questions, however, what is to be said about that one which Radicalism assumed to have a special call to legislate upon—Reform? We are unwilling to believe that any prompting on Mr. Bright's part was necessary to induce Lord John Russell to press this measure. How was it that it did not become law? Who disgusted that most eminent Reformer with his own hobby—to say nothing of the country at large? The reply of the country might be considered doubtful; that of Lord John Russell is known beforehand. Or, to put the question in another shape, does any one doubt that if Mr. Bright and his followers had worked as heartily and unanimously for the extension of the suffrage as they have since done for (what *they* deem, at any rate) the degradation of the House of Peers, thousands of voters would at this time be on the registers who have now no hope of finding their names there? Considering that there was no opposition to Reform save what came from the Ministerial benches, the reply is obvious.

What the Parliamentary Radicals have *not* done, then, is to carry Reform when it was at their disposition. What have they *done*?—a question we put, not upon the ground of this or that bill's merits, but what must be held as an affair of far higher importance—the necessity of a strong, steady, harmonious Government. Well, two or three times this Session the Radicals have brought defeat and disgrace on a Ministry which, unhappily, accepted them as supporters; and, as the price of this support, the Government has involved itself in a scandal of considerable magnitude, and opened a quarrel between the two Legislative Houses. As to the merits of the paper tax, our readers know our opinion. We regard it as very injurious, and wish to see it repealed; but by the "action" taken by the Radicals (together with the loyalty of the Government to the understanding existing between it and Mr. Bright), this question has ceased to be a merely fiscal one. What *our* opinion of the paper duty may be is a matter of very small importance compared with the fact that its repeal has been so managed that a feud has arisen between the two Houses. Whether by design, by accident, or what not, this is the result; and we charge it against the Radical members of the House of Commons. It may be the unexpected offspring of an improper alliance, but there it is; and if Mr. Bright is not altogether responsible for the principles involved, or whether those principles be right or wrong, the bitterness originates with *him*, and it is the bitterness we deplore.

But to the question, What have they accomplished? the Radicals themselves have another answer: they have kept the Conservative party out of office. This would be a laudable work, no doubt, were the Opposition as blind and as infamous as its opponents choose to represent it. However, we are not bound to believe one-half the gentlemen returned to represent the country knaves and fools because Mr. Bright says so, any more than we are going to abolish the House of Lords because he objects to *that* institution. We have already indicated our view of this keeping the Conservatives from office. That is not all that is meant by Radical virulence against the Opposition. Their tactics, at any rate, have this result: Knowing that the two greater parties have ceased to be opposed—that time has so far fused the principles of our leading statesmen that they are virtually agreed—the Radicals take advantage of a *technical* opposition to irritate one party against the other. This irritation naturally brings out the extreme views of each; and so the figment of Liberalism as opposed to Conservatism is maintained, with such results as we have seen of late. The advantages afforded by this state of things to those who promote it are too obvious to be dwelt upon; we need only remark that were it to cease—were those parties to unite whose convictions are so little divided—the other little party, which has no sentiment in common with either, would fall into the position proper to its weight.

Such a consummation we devoutly desire. There are difficulties in the way, no doubt; not the least of them being the number of men on either side whose talents and experience entitle them to commands in the State which they cannot all fill. Still, it is something to get the position of affairs well understood—an object to which we hope the moderation of Whigs and Conservatives will contribute as much as Radical arrogance.

GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTEERS.—Lieutenant-Colonel Lindsay, writing in defence of Government aid to the volunteers, adds:—"I trust that, in whatever shape Government aid be asked, some assistance will be given, in order that there may be no falling off in the muster-roll of the present volunteer force, a result which would, I fear, be very probable in the event of a refusal, and which those who have been and still are so deeply engaged in the service for the defence of the country would be powerless to prevent. I cannot agree that the independence and free agency of a volunteer can ever be damaged as long as he does not receive pay or clothing, and as long as he can enrol when he likes and resign when he thinks fit. The War Office, I conceive, is the only Government department with which the volunteer service has to do in time of peace, and in whatever manner it may be co-operating from time to time with the Army, which is the Home Guard, in time of peace, it would, I apprehend, do so by mutual arrangement, which could be easily attained without any fear of control or sacrifice of independence."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE CONSORT held a second levee at St. James's Palace, on behalf of Her Majesty, on Tuesday afternoon.

CHRISTINA OF SPAIN has arrived in Paris, and reports are already brisk as to her appearance in the part of *L'ambassadrice*, previous to the coming from Munich of the new Paris *Nuovo* Chigi.

THE PRINCE CONSORT paid a visit to Cambridge (where the Prince of Wales is studying) on Tuesday.

LADY FRANKLIN, the widow of Sir John Franklin, the great arctic explorer, has been visiting California and British Columbia.

THE BAVARIAN CHAMBERS has just definitively adopted the proposition of Mr. Paur for removing the interdictions pressing on the Jews as regards the exercise of certain industrial occupations.

THE MAY GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION will be held at Willis's Rooms on Monday, the 27th inst., at half-past two o'clock. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, K.G., President of the association, will preside.

LORD DUFFERIN'S RESIGNATION is now admitted to be a canon. A telegram says that this false news was invented by the *Journal de Constantinople*.

DANDY, the station-master at Lymm, near Warrington, having become a defaulter to the extent of £30, endeavoured to borrow the amount from some friends at Chorley, but, being unsuccessful, he shot himself dead in a field. He has left a wife and six young children.

GOVERNMENT has given notice that the subsidy for the extra mail to China will be discontinued after July 1. There will then be only a monthly instead of a fortnightly mail to China.

TWO BOYS, aged thirteen and fourteen respectively, employed in a Paris pastrycook's shop, quarrelled and struggled until one of them became so exasperated that he stabbed himself to the heart.

IN THE MONTH OF JUNE NEXT, we hear, the Emperor of the French will go to Toulon to "assist" at some experiments in the art of boarding ships, to be made between a three-decker and the iron-plated *La Gloire*.

M. DE LEMERES recently stated at a public dinner at Trieste that within a year and a half from this time the piercing of the Isthmus of Suez will be so far advanced as to allow vessels of 100 tons burden to enter the canal.

THE PORTS OF THE WARRIOR have been reduced to a space so small that, in the event of an engagement, it will be next to an impossibility for a shot or shell of large dimensions to find an entry.

THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE 3RD MANCHESTER REGIMENT are about to submit themselves to a short experience of camp life.

MAJOR THE HON. W. C. YELVERTON, of the Royal Artillery, is placed on half-pay; and his name has been removed from the effective list of the regiment.

ANOTHER GUN of Mr. Whitworth's manufacture lately burst at Woolwich, we hear, while in the course of being proved. The gun was a 100-pounder, and cost the public £1000 sterling.

THEIR RECENTLY DIED at Thau (Calvados) M. Bataille, aged 108; at Bordeaux, Mme. Coutau, aged 106; at Helsingfors, M. Irgot-Bomnson, aged 132.

A LARGE AMOUNT OF CALIFORNIAN GOLD has been consigned to London direct, as a safer market than New York.

ON WEDNESDAY MR. EDWIN JAMES, the eminent Queen's Counsel, presented a petition under the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 70, commonly called "The Gentleman's Act." The liabilities are stated at about £30,000.

THE *Independence* declares itself in a position this time to guarantee the truth of the statement to which it gave currency a day or two back, that the French troops are to be speedily withdrawn from Rome.

THE PRESENTATION OF DEGREES IN CONNECTION WITH THE LONDON UNIVERSITY took place on Wednesday. Lord Granville, the Chancellor, delivered a speech highly eulogistic of the University, and complimented it especially on its school of medicine, which he said stood higher than any other in the country.

THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CROIX was celebrated in St. Paul's Cathedral on Wednesday, in the presence of a large number of civic and clerical dignitaries. The dinner took place in the evening.

THE GUARANTEE FUND OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1862 now exceeds £400,000.

THE RUMOUR WHICH PREVAILED RECENTLY OF MR. WALDEGRAVE'S RESIGNATION of the office of Private Secretary to the Speaker is incorrect.

GRIMBLE AND CO.'S VINEGAR WORKS, in Cumberland-market, Regent's Park, were half destroyed by fire a few days ago. Nine houses adjoining the works were more or less damaged.

MRS. PATTERSON'S APPEAL will be argued early in June. It was fixed for May 30, but was put off in consequence of Mr. Allou, Prince Napoleon's counsel, having another engagement for that day. M. Berryer will support the appeal.

A NEW VOLUME of M. Francois Victor Hugo's Translation of Shakespeare has just appeared, containing "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," "The Merchant of Venice," and "As You Like It," with an introduction and notes.

THE RUMOUR that disease exists extensively among grouse is contradicted as regards Inverness and the other northern counties.

THE PRINCE DE POLIGNAC, brother of the celebrated mathematician, has discovered a new solution of Euler's famous problem of making the knight cover every square on the chessboard, returning to that from which it started.

THE OPENING TRIP OF THE ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB took place on Saturday. There was, as usual, a very large assemblage of yachtsmen.

GENERAL MIRAMON, the ex-President of the Mexican Republic, has just arrived in Paris, accompanied by his wife and children and several relations.

LORD PALMERSTON has given instructions to have a chapel built solely at his own expense at Lee, in the parish of Romsey, on his Lordship's estate. Some parts of his estate are distant three miles from the parish church.

ACCORDING to the *Dublin Mail*, "within a very few days after the result of the Yelverton trial became known Mrs. Forbes Yelverton left Dublin for the purpose of joining her mother, Lady Ashworth, with whom she has since uninterruptedly resided."

MR. FREDERICK ROBSON, the famous comedian, is said to be suffering from congestion of the brain.

A SMALL YACHT has been launched by Todd and Macgregor (Clyde) for Dr. Livingstone.

THE CHAPLAINS OF THE ARMY have taken to wearing their war medals at Court.

THE CHAMBER OF CITIZENS OF BREMEN, in a recent sitting, passed a resolution calling on the Senate to take measures, in accord with the other German Governments, to abolish passports, or at least to make a sweeping reform in the regulations relative to them.

THE PRINTER AND PUBLISHER of the Duc d'Aumale's pamphlet have renounced the idea of appealing against the sentence which condemns them, the former to six months' imprisonment and £200 fine, the latter to one year's imprisonment and £200 fine.

SIR ROBERT PAUL addressed a meeting at Liverpool on Tuesday night, with the view to obtain from the Government assistance in mitigating the persecutions against Protestants in Spain. There was an immense audience, and resolutions were passed in conformity with the object for which the meeting was called.

MR. CHARLES FRANK has been appointed by the Speaker to the office of taxing master to the House of Commons, in the place of Mr. Lefroy, deceased. Mr. Frere takes the office in conjunction with his office as examiner of petitions to private bills, at the reduced salary of £250 a year, a saving to the public of £300 a year being effected.

THE PORT AT SANDOWN BAY (Isle of Wight), where the fearful murder was committed a few months since, is about to be demolished, and for its a more formidable character is to be erected—one on the top of the Culver Cliff, another at the foot of Bembridge Downs, and another on the high range near Dunnoe Point.

IN THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH on Saturday an action was brought to recover a sum of £78 12s. 6d. This was the claim of a "man in possession," and represented the balance of an account amounting to £175 6s. 6d.—eighteen months' possession-money. The jury gave a verdict for the full amount.

AT THE INAUGURAL DINNER OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY an invitation to Miss House was given by the Lord Mayor to the whole of the Royal Academicians, which has been accepted. The dinner will take place on Saturday, the 25th inst.

MR. GAMBART has sold Mr. Holman Hunt's "Finding of Our Saviour in the Temple" to Mr. Flint, the collector, of Leeds; the former reserving the right to retain the picture as long as he likes for exhibition and engraving, each of themselves more than reimburse the £1500 originally invested by Mr. Gambart in the picture.

ONE OF THE BEST ARRANGED AND MOST INTERESTING FANCY FAIRS of the season was opened on Tuesday, at St. James's Hall, in aid of an association for the support and education of the orphan and destitute Catholic children in London and its environs.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE Conservatives (at least a considerable number of them) complain that their leading has been feeble, shifty, uncertain, unintelligible, and irresolute of late. They were instructed first that there was no surplus; afterwards they were summoned to vote away a surplus, even more than the Chancellor of the Exchequer said he had to dispose of. When defeated in this attempt they were called upon to resist the paper-tax resolution, and at the last moment were kept back. Then the Report was to be opposed, and, in order that it might be effectually opposed, they were whipped up and kept to a late hour to postpone its consideration. In this they succeeded, but when the report really came on all opposition to it was withdrawn; and now they are fighting a hopeless battle, not much to their mind, against the exercise of an undoubted privilege of the House. All this has produced irritation and discontent. They complain that they have again been "led into a ditch;" but upon reflection they must see that their chief has not been so much at fault as his followers. Mr. Disraeli and Lord Derby would, if they were allowed, take a dignified position, manfully fight the Conservative battle, and when defeated magnanimously submit; but the tail is too powerful for the head; the followers insist upon being leaders. And hence the obviously shifty, uncertain, and irresolute policy that has been adopted, which has given so much discontent. In what this will all end it is difficult to foresee; but if this mutinous conduct should be continued there seems to be no other course open to Mr. Disraeli than a resignation of the leadership. He may say to Mr. Bentinck and Lord Robert Cecil, "One of two must still obey; which shall it be, you or I?" Indeed, it seems clear that Mr. Disraeli cannot and will not retain his undignified position much longer. And then what will the Conservative party do without him? Who are they to elect in his stead, Lord Robert or Mr. Bentinck, or both? The Duke of Bedford's death will lead to no political changes at present. It may possibly clear the way for Lord John Russell at no distant day to retire to the Lords. Lord John is confessedly not rich, but perhaps the Duke may have left him a sufficient sum for the endowment of another Peerage in the family. And perhaps his Lordship, who is himself getting old, may wish soon to nightcap his head in a coronet, and seek rest in the Upper House.

That, like the Roman in the Capitol,
He may adjust his mantle ere he fall.

The Duke of Bedford was a wise and good man. Unlike most of our great landed proprietors, he lived greatly within his income, and hence he was enabled to clear off all incumbrances from his property, completely renovate and wonderfully improve his estate, build near upon five hundred excellent cottages for the labourers, besides a considerable number of schools, help to rebuild or repair churches without number, and, at the same time, expend large sums in quiet and unostentatious charities. He formerly was in Parliament, and more than once proved that if he did not often take part in the debate it was not because he lacked the gift of a speaker. But when he came to the peerage he retired gradually from public life, and at last was never heard of in the political world, except now and then, as the Nestor of the great Whig party, when difficulties, perplexities, or dissensions arose.

The collection visible (or intended to be visible) at the soirée given in Ironmongers' Hall on Thursday week, and open for inspection on the two following days, was one of the most interesting ever brought together. There were the rarest pictures, miniatures, gems, precious stones, armour, and "curios" of every kind, including an autograph of Shakespeare's to the lease of a house. There was also a collection of all the maces belonging to English corporations, the handsomest of which—Gravesend's—was, *horribile dictu*, in pledge, and was "taken out" by the Ironmongers' Company. So valuable was the gathering that it was insured for £200,000.

The Literary Fund dinner on Wednesday was well attended; and the Duc d'Aumale, as chairman, made a splendid speech. Mr. A. Trollope returned thanks for the "Literature of Great Britain," and Mr. Thackeray proposed "The Literature of France," which was not responded to.

Perhaps the best photograph, not merely as thoroughly preserving the character of the sitter but as a work of art is that of Lord Derby, recently published by Mr. Mayall. The "Rupert of Debate" is there to the life, and from the expression of his countenance he looks as though he was just about to rise for the purpose of demolishing the Duke of Argyll.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The grand performance in aid of the funds of the Dramatic College, on Friday last, went off satisfactorily, brought all our best actors forward at different times of the evening, and earned a large sum of money. It seems, however, to be generally felt that it would be much better to have one or two good pieces, with all the parts well filled. Mrs. Stirling's delivery of Mr. Tom Taylor's address was marvellous in pluck and spirit. All the before-the-curtain arrangements were excellent, owing to the constant supervision of Messrs. Jerwood, Churchill, and Sams.

ROYAL LITERARY FUND DINNER.

THE seventy-second anniversary of this institution was celebrated on Wednesday night by a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern. The company was more numerous than that at any recent festival, there being nearly three hundred persons present.

His Royal Highness the Duc d'Aumale presided, and was supported immediately on his right by the Marquis of Clanricarde, Mr. Disraeli, M.P., the Earl of Shrewsbury, and Mr. Haliburton, M.P.; and on his left by the Belgian Minister, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Lord Ravensworth, Lord Harry Vane, M.P., Sir J. Pakington, M.P., and Lord J. Manners, M.P.

Among the other guests there were the Comte de Paris, the Duc de Chartres, the Prince de Condé, and the Count d'Eu; Lord Hatherton, the Right Hon. Jos. Napier; his Excellency Count Platen, Swedish Minister; Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. Sir E. East; the Hon. George Denman, M.P., Sir J. Simon, Sir J. Boileau, Sir R. Marchison, Sir H. Rawlinson, Sir Erskine Perry, Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, Sir H. Ellis, Sir J. H. Maxwell, Sir H. Holland, the Dean of Canterbury, Mr. M. Milnes, M.P., Mr. Hartcourt, M.P., Mr. Chichester Fortescue, M.P., Mr. Stirling, M.P., Mr. Botfield, M.P., Mr. A. Egerton, M.P., Mr. Macaulay, M.P., Mr. Grant Duff, M.P., Mr. Hugo Childers, M.P., Mr. Stanley, M.P., Mr. Peacocke, M.P., Mr. Marsh, M.P., Mr. Bruce, M.P., Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Gibbs, C.B., M. Du Chailu, M. de Mussey, M. Delfosse, M. Couturie, M. Joly, Mr. Thackeray, M. Higgins, Mr. Iby, Mr. Robert Bell, Mr. W. B. Greg, Mr. E. S. Dallas, Mr. Longman, Mr. John Murray, Commander Forbes, R.N., Mr. Anthony Trollope, Mr. Augustus Trollope, Mr. Theodore Martin, Mr. Lowe, Mr. George Godwin, Mr. G. A. Sala, Dr. Copland, Rev. Dr. Vaughan, and the Rev. Charles Merrivale.

The cloth having been removed, His Royal Highness, who was received with loud and repeated cheering, said:

Gentlemen, I beg to propose "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen." These are the first words I have to address you, and also the first words I have uttered in public for many years. Nothing could be more gratifying to me than in this way to break a long silence, for I have not now to fulfill a mere formal duty of etiquette, but to express feelings which are deeply seated in my heart. I have no right to speak the language which might be used on this occasion by a loyal Englishman, but I venture to say that nobody can feel more respect than myself for her Majesty or a more sincere devotion to her Royal person. I see in your Queen the personification of your free and noble institutions, the Sovereign of a country which is, and I hope will remain, the friend and ally of my own native land, which affords shelter to all exiles, without asking them to submit to any humiliating condition, but only to respect the laws under whose protection they live. I also admire in your Queen the most accomplished of ladies, for I have myself had more than one personal occasion to observe—nay, to feel—that extreme delicacy and tenderness of heart

which is not common among persons born in so elevated a situation, and of which she has given so touching a proof on a recent and most melancholy occasion. Thus, gentlemen, I am sure that my words correspond to the feelings of all those who surround me when I ask you to drink with me the health of the model of constitutional Sovereigns, the most devoted of daughters, the best of wives and mothers, the most faithful and affectionate of friends, and, finally, the august and munificent patroness of this institution—your good Queen Victoria.

"The Prince Consort," "The Prince of Wales," "The Army and Navy," having been toasted, then came the toast of the evening, "The Prosperity of the Literary Fund, and the Health of its President, the Marquis of Lansdowne." The Duc d'Aumale said, in proposing this toast—

I cannot pretend to be thoroughly acquainted with your literature, but if I know something of it I owe it to two circumstances. The first is, that I was educated by a father who had been an exile, as I am now, who had found on your shores the same hospitable shelter, and who both knew and loved your country, your language, the great works of your literature, as well, I suppose, as any foreigner ever did or can. I remember that in the earliest days of my life, when he was himself free from all political responsibility, in the happy and quiet evenings of Neuilly, he used often, after having shown to his children the engraved portraits of celebrated men and told their deeds, or plates which commemorated the military achievements of our countrymen, to take down from the shelves of the library some huge folio volume of Heydell's "Illustrated Shakespeare" and give us an outline of the finest scenes of your great dramatist, reciting occasionally some of the beautiful passages which had remained engraved in his wonderful memory. That was my first impression of English literature. I grew up with one of the first French generations who, abandoning an old tradition, began to study foreign literature—I mean the literature which does not belong to the great Latin family of languages. Well, when I was a young man, the great authors of this country were understood and admired in France, and numerous translations of their works were published for the benefit of those who could not read them in your idiom. Shakespeare was commented on, quoted, and even imitated by some who were daring enough to try the experiment. Your novels were in all hands; and I remember, if I may be allowed another personal recollection, that more than once one of the "Waverley Novels" was consulted at school under my desk, and that when I was supposed to be bent upon one of the celebrated grammatical books which come from the pen of our great Port Royal scholars, I was most attentively reading "Ivanhoe" or "Old Mortality." Such is our natural taste for what we call in French *le fruit de la patrie*. I could not now, perhaps, repeat correctly all the tenses of a Greek verb in *ut*, but I am sure I could trace the footsteps of Nigel in the streets of London, point out the spot where once stood the house of Jennie Deans, or serve as cicerone in the ruins of Lochleven. Since the days of Sir Walter Scott the novels of your countrymen have not ceased to command universal attention abroad. "Vanity Fair," "David Copperfield," "Coningsby," and "My Novel" are as much read on the Continent as the works of George Sand or Alexandre Dumas; and on this very day the readers of one of the most important French newspapers, after a rapid glance at the telegrams, hasten to peruse the feuilleton where they will find the continuation of the "Woman in White" translated into their own language.

The Duke then spoke of our Parliamentary orators and the public press:—

I know that certain persons would not allow the oratorical art to be included in the great literary classification. But I don't look at the philippics of Demosthenes or the invectives of Cicero against Catoine or Verres as an inferior ornament of Greek or Roman literature. I don't suppose that Englishmen will hold that the speeches of a Bolingbroke, a Fox, a Burke, a Canning, or a Peel, ought not to be included among the great intellectual works which this country has produced. I know that England does not enjoy the exclusive privilege of breeding clever speakers, and I might at least name one country which is the first in my affections, and which could boast of presenting a set of public orators, unfortunately now on the half-pay list, as brilliant and numerous as was ever seen in the assemblies of any country or of any age. I am certain, also, that great oratorical power will be or is already displayed in all those more or less new Parliaments which are now happily sitting in many European capitals. But it has been your good luck or the effect of your wisdom that you have constantly and without interruption, for a long course of years, enjoyed truly representative institutions, and their blessing has imparted to the tone of your public speakers a peculiar character, humorous without frivolity, practical and not trivial, eloquent but never degenerating into mere rhetorical amplifications; in a word, English oratory appears to me the real pattern of modern Parliamentary eloquence. The same thing may be said of the daily or periodical press. I know I come to a subject rather delicate to be touched in this place, and, above all, by me; but I hope to keep within the limits which I ought not to overstep when I say that the press cannot accomplish its real aim nor exert fully its beneficial action without freedom. I do not contend that this freedom should be carried to the same extent or submitted to the same rules in every country. It rests upon certain general principles which are known by any man of good sense, and ought to be respected by every legislator of good faith. Nor would I deny that the freest press may make some mistakes, it dict occasional wrong, instead public opinion upon its certain questions or in regard to certain persons; but remember that it is the law of God that nothing can be perfect in this world. A really free press nearly always expresses and gives preponderance to the opinions and feelings of the great majority of the community, and nine times out of ten the majority inclines towards the best and wisest course. The press exerts upon the Executive power and action at once stimulative and restrictive. It prevents many rash decisions, and it points out many good things which are to be done, and which single men might not always perceive without the aid of the hundred voices of the press. Nobody can deny that Continental journalists have to encounter considerable difficulties, and that they have to display a degree of self-reliance, and often courage, which does them great credit; but nothing can replace the free air which people breathe in this happy land, and which I hope some good wind will, one day or other, diffuse throughout the whole of Europe. There is no family misfortune, no success of others, no event whatever, which will alter the opinion I entertain on this point, and which, I may say, I have sucked with the milk of my nurse. I will persevere in repeating with the great Roman historian, "Potius periculosa libertas quieto servitio"—I prefer liberty with its dangers to a quiet servitude.

Speaking of the Literary Fund, the Duke concluded as follows:—

There is only one case of timely assistance given by this society to which I may allude, because it has been already brought before the public by the very man who was interested in it. This man was Chateaubriand. It is impossible not to feel a real emotion on seeing the autograph lines in which this illustrious writer declares that without the help he had received from this institution he would have been unable to finish his work called "The Natchez"—the first which created his reputation; so that if this recited had not existed, the glory of that great man would perhaps have been lost for France and for letters. Gentlemen, I suppose that, after this example, nothing can be added to show what action this institution may have upon literature and the mutual relations of nations; but the very name of your president is also a symbol, for it means absence of prejudices, high taste for art or letters, practical liberalism, universal kindness.

Mr. Disraeli proposed the health of the Duke. He said:—

I doubt whether our choir has ever been filled under circumstances more interesting than on the present occasion. It is filled by the action of an ancient house long connected with the progress of the most brilliant and refined of modern nations—by the lineal descendant of the great Monarch whose name is indelibly associated with the most resplendent period of modern letters. But the claims of our chairman to your sympathy and confidence do not depend upon the past or upon the deeds of those who have preceded him. His claims are present and personal. If it be true that the most classic order of literary composition is that in which the writer, in whom action and contemplation blend, is enabled to give the results of his own experience, to paint the scenes he has himself witnessed, and to record the events which he has himself, perhaps, in some measure occasioned, then I say that our chairman can urge the strongest claims to distinction in that department. We are indebted to his pen for those vivid pictures on the origin and character of that recent arm of modern warfare which seems to combine the discipline of Europe with the fire of the desert. In those precise and picturesque sketches of the Zouaves you cannot forget that the writer observed them on the tented field, and that he also led the soldiers on to war and to victory. The same pen has analysed in ancient lore one of the most wonderful campaigns of Caesar; I may say that that criticism displays a spirit and a skill not altogether unworthy of the matchless character whose exploits and whose narrative of them he has viewed with an admiring but searching eye. I have always believed that the time will yet come when we shall be indebted to his Royal Highness for the production of some work which will live in the language of that accomplished country which he quitted in sorrow, but with honour. We live in an age of strange vicissitude. The course of revolution is as rapid as it is strong. Empires dissolve and dynasties are scattered. Happy the Prince who, by no fault of his own, banished from the Court and camp, can find consolation in the library, and generous occupation in the rich galleries of learning and art. Happy the Prince who, in a foreign land, mixing with his fellow-men on equal terms, is still marked out by the pre-eminence of nature. Happy the Prince who, under such circumstances, may, in the realm of literature, conquer provinces which he can never lose, and, perhaps, establish a throne which may defy the fate of dynasties.

THE DUKE OF MANCHESTER.

WILLIAM DROGO MONTAGU, seventh Duke of Manchester and descendant of one of the most ancient of the families who date from the Conquest, was born on the 15th of October, 1823. After completing his education at Sandhurst he earned a commission in the Army without purchase, thus embracing the career of his maternal grandfather, the late Brigadier-General Robert Bernard Sparrow, of Brompton Park, Huntingdonshire. In 1841 he was gazetted to the 11th Foot. In 1842 he exchanged into the Grenadier Guards, and was Aide-de-Camp to Sir Peregrine Maitland, Governor of the Cape Colony in 1844. In 1850 he retired; but was appointed Major of the Huntingdon Militia in 1852, as well as Deputy Lieutenant for the county. He represented Bewdley in the House of Commons from 1848 to 1852, and Huntingdonshire from 1852 till 1855, that is to say, until he succeeded to the dukedom, in the August of that year. On the 22nd of July the Duke was married, at Hanover, to the Baroness Louise Fredericke Auguste, daughter of the Comte d'Alten. His long acquaintance with military affairs renders his opinion on all matters relating to the Army of some value, and the present controversy respecting the Government aid being solicited for the volunteer force has been recently made the subject of some public comment by the Duke by means of a letter in the *Times*, in which he says:—

"Almost ever since I have been in command of a corps of volunteers, it has appeared to me that the chief danger to the continuance of the scheme arose from the heavy expense which the organisation of corps, and especially of small corps, entails upon their members. It has always appeared to me that volunteers ought not to be asked to do more than sacrifice their time to drill and to equip themselves. All necessary expenses should be defrayed by the public or by the locality. But, with a 'field officer,' I confess that this assistance should not be made in the form of a money payment to the commanding officers of corps; for then it might be diverted to bands, extravagant uniforms, &c. It should, I conceive, be done rather by providing a permanent staff, like that of the militia, and such accommodation in the way of armouries, drill-grounds, rifle-ranges, &c., as may be necessary. I urged this upon the War Office during last summer, and they consented to pay Sergeants in certain proportions for mounted volunteer corps. Though I said I thought it as necessary for infantry corps, I was told that the arrangement would be confined to cavalry corps."

"May I venture to hope that you will assist us in urging on the Government this outlay. Without it, I cannot but think there may be danger of a very respectable defensive force dwindling away. With it, Government might obtain a fair influence over volunteers, which could not at all interfere with the complete independence of men who can take their discharge at a fortnight's notice."

Whether the army regulations will be applicable to a purely volunteer force is a question which the riflemen themselves will probably have to settle.

GRAND REVIEW OF MILITIA AND VOLUNTEERS
AT KIMBOLTON.

"It is an ill wind that blows nobody good;" and so thought the good folks of the quiet little country town of Kimbolton, in Huntingdonshire, when, by the churlishness of an owner of some fiftieth part of common rights at St. Neots, the review intended to have taken place there was transferred to his Grace the Duke of Manchester's noble park at Kimbolton.

The gathering was more interesting than usual, inasmuch as, by the wish of the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Sandwich, it comprised the whole available forces of the country. The militia had been out for some weeks, and it was thought that a good opportunity might be obtained for mutual introduction if, before they were disbanded, they could have a field-day in conjunction with the light horse and rifle volunteers belonging to the same county.

Friday, the 3rd inst., was the day appointed for the review. The militia had marched in from Huntingdon on the previous evening, and had been furnished with such accommodation as the town afforded, from the best bed at the Lion to a modest shakedown among the malt-sacks, while some, it was said, were not even fortunate enough to "get the sack," but had to prick with their bayonets for the softest board in the granary. The officers of the regiment and those of the light horse volunteers, were entertained by the Duke



THE DUKE OF MANCHESTER.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

and Duchess of Manchester. Early on Friday morning the streets began to be thronged by the military and townspeople, and the dark uniform of the militia, the gay scarlet trappings of the light horse,

and the tasty habiliments of the volunteers, formed an agreeable picture under the quaint gables and high roofs of the ancient town.

At eleven the various bodies of troops began to march into the park, the militia commanded by the Earl of Sandwich, the light horse volunteers under their Colonel the Duke of Manchester, and the rifle volunteers under the command of Captain Jones, of the militia. The Hon. O. Duncombe was Colonel of the latter regiment, but, having lately resigned, his Grace the Duke of Manchester has been invited to take the command, and we hear has accepted it, subject to the approval of the higher authorities.

The light horse volunteer troop is an exceedingly effective and soldierlike body of men. It owes its formation mainly to the exertions of the Duke of Manchester, who has bestowed unwearied efforts in organising it, and bringing it to its present high state of discipline. The uniform consists of a scarlet tunic with white shoulder-belt and braiding, Bedford cord breeches, and Napoleon boots. The helmet is light and neat, and the red and white horsehair plume gives a dashing look to the costume. The regiment is admirably horsed, and armed with a long straight sword.

The whole body of troops, to the number of about 500, formed on the parade-ground at twelve, the cavalry forming on a separate piece of ground, and being inspected by the Earl of Sandwich. Their appearance and manœuvring excited general admiration. The three squadrons were commanded respectively by Captain Polhill Turner, Captain Baynes, and Mr. Arkwright, and their Colonel handled them in first-rate style.

After the inspection and general salute the whole body of troops marched forward in squadrons and companies to the high and open ground in the park, followed by an immense concourse of spectators anxious to get a good view of the evolutions of "mimic war." The park itself is admirably adapted for such a display, consisting of gentle undulations and grassy slopes; and the movements of the various bodies of troops among the clumps and knolls, and the contrast of the scarlet uniforms with the "verdant green" of nature's carpet, formed as charming a picture as eye could rest upon.

The troops were supplied with eight rounds of cartridge per man, and fired in precise volleys and sustained file-firing with capital effect.

The advance of the skirmishers, the formation of squares, and the charge of the light horse were well performed, and the Kimbolton contingent, though but recently raised and armed, exhibited undeniable steadiness and solidity.

At the conclusion of the review the troops marched back to the parade ground near the castle, and, while in rank, Mr. A. Maddison, of Huntingdon, was permitted to take the photograph, from which we are enabled to present our readers with the accompanying Engraving.

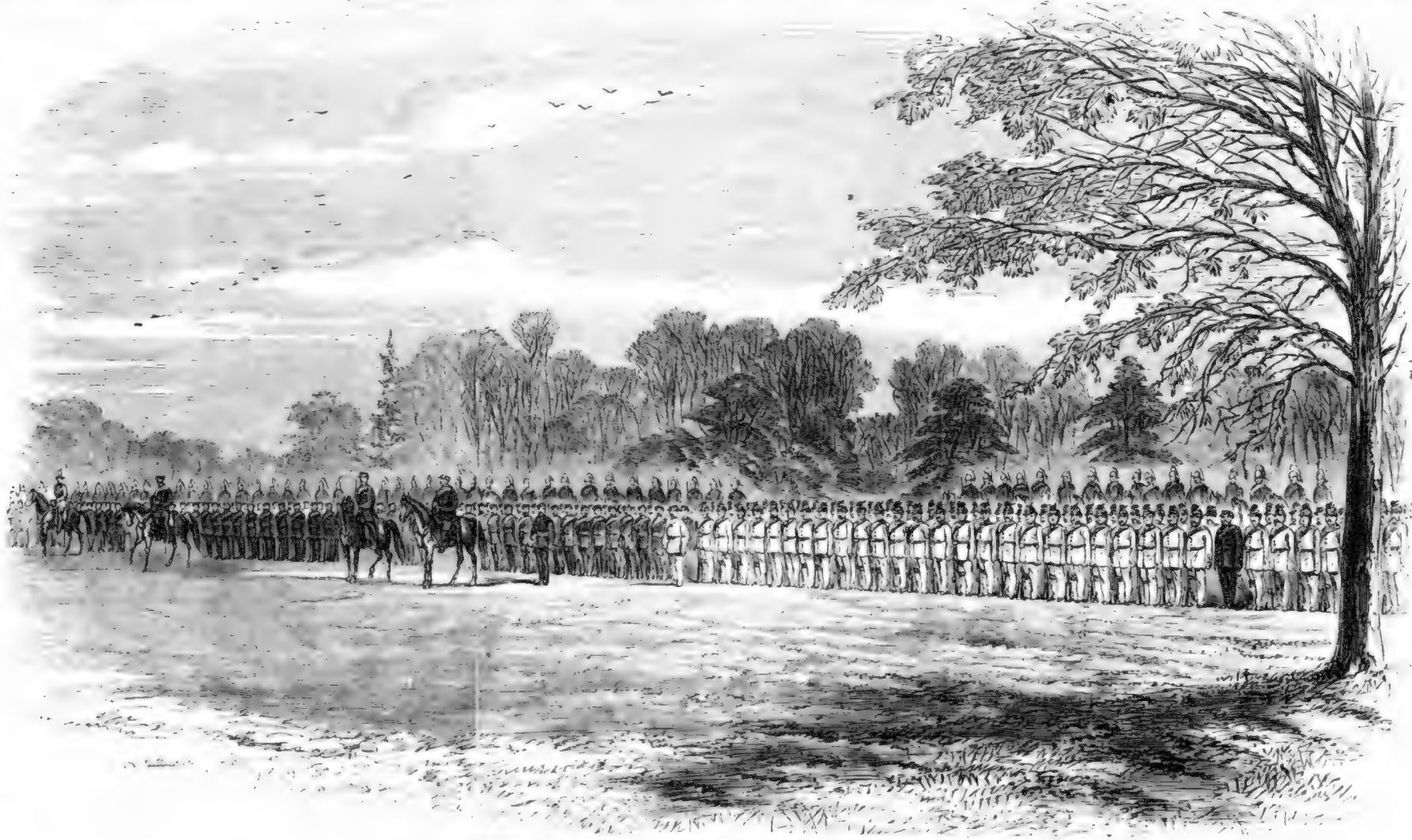
After this the troops were dismissed, the volunteers being regaled with a substantial luncheon laid out on the castle terrace. A large party of the officers, and of the nobility and gentry of this and the neighbouring counties, were also entertained at luncheon in the castle.

After luncheon a gay party congregated on the steps of the castle to listen to the band; and the playing of the St. Ives firs and drummers, little *enfants de troupe* of some seven or eight years old, gave immense satisfaction.

The whole proceedings of the day passed off admirably. A universal feeling of satisfaction was felt at the enjoyment provided by the liberality of the Duke and Duchess, and ere the party separated three hearty cheers were given for the noble owner of Kimbolton Castle and her Grace, as well as for Lord Sandwich and Captain Jones.

"THE SWISS GIRL."

BOTH the scenery and the people of Switzerland have been reproduced in every variety by artists who look for a general and yet picturesque subject for their work—and with reason; for while the grand mountain peaks and wild valleys have in them almost every element of sublime form and varied colour, the people themselves, in dress, in quaint, out-of-the-way appearance, in the very expressions of their faces and the movements of their free, mountain-bred limbs, at once invite the painter to put their semblance upon canvas, with the certainty of their becoming a pretty picture. This has been eminently the case with the picture of which we give an Engraving, and the Bernese who stood while her comely shape and the pretty



REVIEW OF VOLUNTEERS AT KIMBOLTON.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

dress of her canton grew in duplicate under the artist's pencil must have felt, not flattered, but astonished, to see such a lifelike double looking at her from the easel. The subject is at once suggestive of all we ever read about Switzerland when we were children; and while we stand looking at the picture all the old reminiscences come back again, from the first song of "Buy a Broom" to "William Tell"—not the real original William Tell, that is to say, but the operatic version, in which they would do well, by-the-by, always, in future, to adhere to the real Swiss costume, since it is, after all, prettier than the fancy peasantry of the usual stage chorus.

THE TAIPINGS.

A LETTER from a gentleman who accompanied the expedition into the interior of China thus describes a visit to Nankin, called by the present occupants Tienking, or Heavenly Capital:—

"We occupied the palace that is being got up for Chungwang, who commanded the forces at Soochow last summer. The rebel chiefs put themselves to a great deal of trouble to make us as comfortable as they could, and showed great anxiety to cultivate our friendship. We spent a week in Nankin, and I will now give you, in as few words as I can, my general conclusions respecting the Taiping rebellion.

"They don't in any way encourage trade, except in firearms and gunpowder. These, as well as steamers, they are anxious to buy. They pretended a willingness to facilitate trade, and even transit from Imperial territory through their own; but I am persuaded these soft speeches were merely to gain our goodwill. I tried to prove to them the folly of burning and destroying towns and villages, and stopping trade at its fountain-head, as without trade they never could prosper. They assented, but said it was difficult, and that their whole attention was now devoted to subduing the 'hills and rivers,' as they call it. After peace was established they would then look after trade, as well as schools and other peaceful institutions. The fact is, they live on loot, and so long as they can loot they will neither work nor trade.

"I found the internal condition of the rebels much better than I expected. They are extremely well dressed and well fed. The population of Nankin—entirely official, no shops (or anything) unconnected with the army or administration being admitted within the gates—I estimate at under 20,000. Of this number very few are soldiers; the greater part are captives and slaves from all parts of the country. These are the hewers of wood and drawers of water, and able-bodied men are looked to as valuable prizes. They are either pressed into the army or kept as coolies in Nankin. They get no pay at all; only their food. There is a wonderful number of good-looking young women in the place, all exceedingly well dressed in Soochow silks. These are also captives of war from Soochow and other places; and amusing advertisements are met with on the subject of stray women. The city of Nankin, as well as the suburbs, the fine old tombs of the Ming Emperors, and the famous porcelain Pagoda, are utterly destroyed. The walls are very high, twenty-one miles in circuit; but the once wide and well-paved streets are now merely roads leading through heaps of bricks. The palaces of the Wangs stand conspicuous among the ruins; these are new, the old yamuns and temples and the whole Tartar city having been destroyed. A few houses line the roads here and there, but not, in my opinion, supplying accommodation for more than 20,000 people.

The Tienwang has a large palace. His attendants are females, 60 in number, besides 68 wives allowed to his rank. He never is seen by any but the Kings, and his person is held sacred. He is, however, no means a puppet, for it is he alone who keeps the movement together. There are ten or eleven Kings in all, but only two or three in Nankin. Kanwang and Sewang are leading troops into Anhui. Chungwang is about Soochow, and there is one, they say, in Sechen.

The discipline is as good as that of the Imperialists, perhaps better, and the juniors have a dashing, rollicking manner that is rather taking. The Wangs that I have seen, on the contrary, have a drowsy, dissipated appearance, while their mountebank yellow dresses and tinsel crowns, with their theatrical efforts at dignity of deportment, render them quite ridiculous. Not one of these Kings can speak the Mandarin dialect, and none of them have had education above that of a coolie, except Tienwang, who was two months with old Roberts, and Kanwang, who was under Dr. Legge, in Hong-Kong, for a time. They have linguists attached to them, who read and write for them.

"Their armament is of the most contemptible kind, and the fact of their dominating over the Imperial troops merely demonstrates the utter and hopeless prostration of the Government. The rebels hold all the country round Nankin. It is scoured by their foraging parties. No Imperialist force comes above Kwachow. Nankin could be taken as easily as possible if the Imperialists had an atom of

"I have no hope of any good ever coming of this rebel movement. No decent Chinaman will have anything to do with it. They do nothing but burn, murder and destroy; they hardly profess anything beyond that. They are detested by all the country people, and even those in the city who are not of 'the brethren' hate them. They have held Nankin eight years, and there is not a symptom of rebuilding it. Trade and industry are prohibited; their land taxes are three times heavier than those of the Imperialists; they adopt no measures to soothe and conciliate the people, nor do they act in any way as if they had a permanent interest in the soil. They look to plunder alone for a subsistence; and I cannot see any elements of stability about them, nor anything which can claim our sympathy."

THE MACDONALD AFFAIR.

THE following note, addressed by Baron Schleinitz, through Count Bernstorff to Lord John Russell, relating to the recent

Macdonald discussion in the House of Commons, was accidentally omitted from our last impression:—"I have observed from the public journals, with as much surprise as deep regret, the manner in which Lord Palmerston replied to the questions addressed to him in the House of Commons on the 26th of last month on the subject of Captain Macdonald. We could not expect that he would take in this matter the same view as the Prussian Government, but we might have taken it for granted that the First Minister of England, fully cognisant of the circumstances stated by us, would abstain from heaping groundless reproaches on the Government and laws of Prussia. He himself could not do otherwise than acknowledge that the conduct of the Prussian officials had been in accordance with the Prussian laws. And, in truth, the Prussian Court placed upon the affair of Captain Macdonald the mildest interpretation allowed by law, and merely inflicted upon him a slight pecuniary fine. Those whose signatures were affixed to the offensive protest have been, it is true, condemned by the Judge, but they have escaped punishment because the Royal amnesty of the 12th of January of this year has affected them. Finally, the Prussian Government, which did all in its power to shorten the time of Captain Macdonald's confinement, has expressed without reserve to the British Government its regret for the occurrence itself. How, in so clear a case, the Prussian Government can be reproached with having neglected to do what was incumbent on it as a great Power, and as a Government in friendly relations with England, even Lord Palmerston's speech has not succeeded in showing.

"When this distinguished statesman makes mention of me in terms for which I cannot but be personally grateful to him—when he makes appeal to my knowledge of the mode of thought and habits of the English people—I cannot before all things re-

press the observation that, during the several years of residence in England which my official position afforded me, nothing filled me with greater admiration than the sense of right and law which is everywhere firmly rooted in the English people, and which is also manifested in respect for judicial sentences. I cannot suppose that the English people will deny this respect to the sentence of Prussian Judges in a case where, in the person of an Englishman, a violation of the laws of the country in which he has been residing had to be punished, and where the legal advisers of the English Crown themselves acknowledge that the proceedings had been in accordance with the laws of the land.

"In carrying out the laws of one country, the judicial condemnation of the subjects of another appears to me not to be a circumstance which could disturb the mutual relation of two Governments, a close friendly union between which is in the interest of both. I cannot, however, conceal from myself that accusations of such a kind as those which Lord Palmerston, without ground or justifica-



SWISS PEASANT GIRL OF THE CANTON BERNE.-(FROM A PICTURE BY J. AB OLON, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS)

pluck. Nganking is also held by the rebels; but they are so beleaguered by the besiegers that they are in great straits for food. We passed close under the walls of Nganking. The outer defences and the wall itself are in first-rate order. Fortunately, they did not molest us. The wall was crowded with people as we passed. It must be more populous than Nankin; and no women were to be seen. In fighting men it must be far stronger. The Imperialists are also in great force. They are strongly entrenched in a semicircle round the city at an average distance of at least two miles. The rebels have no fleet, while a well-armed Imperial fleet blockades the river about three miles below the city, and another the same distance above it. The Imperialists also hold two fortified positions on the opposite side of the river. The rebels are, therefore, completely invested, and must either be starved out soon or make a sally as they did at Nankin last year. Meantime a large rebel army is advancing for the relief of the garrison, and the Imperialists are also advancing reinforcements to Anhui. A pitched battle is imminent.

tion, has raised against the Government and the laws of Prussia are well calculated to excite in the Prussian people an ill-feeling against a Government the leader of which has no hesitation in designating the condition of Prussia as lamentable. If such an ill-feeling should result in an alienation of the Governments of Prussia and England—which I should deplore in the highest degree—the Prussian Government would at least bear no blame in the disturbance of the good understanding with England which it has always honestly laboured to foster and promote."

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"Place aux Dames." The "Sonnambula" must precede "Don Giovanni." Honour to the new comer. Glory to the child prima donna. Right welcome Adelina Patti. The name is won by the notoriety of a night. The young blood has come at last. There has been long waiting, but hope and expectation have been finally realised. There is a real prima donna from the scholarship period of life. No hackneyed voice that has gone the round of Europe and is heard in its last stage, but a juvenile, fresh, blooming, sympathetic organ, the sound of which penetrates to the heart's core at once. The advent of Patti is an operatic revolution—a veritable coup de théâtre. It will upset the repertoire; it will revive the Italian opera pur et simple; it will give courage to composers. The Amina of Tuesday night appertains to the artists who created it—it is Adelina's alone. How many Amina's are known to the London amateurs? There was the original one, that of Pasta, for whom "Norma" was composed in 1831. Then we had Malibran in 1833 in English, Caradori-Allan in 1834, at the King's Theatre; Grisi in 1835 and Persiani in 1837, Mme. Castellan in 1846, Jenny Lind in 1847, and Viardot in 1848. There were also Albion, Adelaide Kemble, Mrs. Wood, Mlle. Eugénie Garcia, Miss Romer, Miss Louisa Pyne. The reminiscences are countless. Of those that have left imperishable traces of their delineations may be cited Malibran, Jenny Lind, and Persiani. All had their specialities; but now arrives a mere girl from America, with two years' alone experience of the lyric stage, and Covent Garden walls shake with the tumultuous expressions of the long-desired new sensation. It would require the lengthened space of an analytical essay to point out how the new prima donna, with apparent unconsciousness, with childlike simplicity, with easy, graceful, action, creates this perfectly original Amina. Her eyes have a great deal to do with the telling of the story. She has the "beauté du diable la jeunesse," but her features are not handsome, assuredly. Her head is small; the profile not prominently defined; the facial expression is not much varied except by a sweet smile or a serious look; but the eye speaks eloquently. Without exception it is the gentlest Amina who has ever walked across the plank of the perilous water-course, but it yields not in charm to the most consummate art ever exhibited in this sweet pastoral. The auditory must be alive to every movement of this Amina; there is a fascination in following her so great that Elvino, the Count, and the other characters, seem to be extinguished. Tiberini, who in the early scenes was singing splendidly, was scarcely listened to. Attention was absorbed by the debutants. Under the aspect of showing great aplomb she was really labouring under much nervous excitement, and in stating this fact it is not given apologetically, for Adelina Patti requires no reservation in the universal opinion that such a debut has not been witnessed since the Jenny-Lind opening night, in Alice. Patti is a born artist—a natural singer. She likes to sing; it is no effort for her. There is no labour in her execution of the most intricate divisions, which would tax the powers of the violinist of the highest order. Now, our contemporaries rave about her F's and E flats in alt, her signally finished shake, her daring intervals, her chromatic ascents and descents; but our faith in her is based not so much on her marvellous *tours de force* as upon her delivery of the *adagios* and of the *recitatives*. It is in the intensity of her expression, in her delicious phrasing, in her intellectuality of interpretation, that we look for the bright future of her career. Once an artist, always an artist. She is every inch one. No tuition in the world could give her the management of the voice she possesses in such an eminent degree. She startled her hearers at once by her thirds, fifths, and other intervals; and she electrified them in the cabaletta of the *aria d'entrata*. But there were the usual doubters in the "foyer." "It is an old voice in a young girl," said one; "The quality is rather harsh—too wiry and metallic," insinuated others. "Wait a bit," replied the old stagers; "hear what she will do in the largo preceding the joyous rondo finale." The prophets were right. The voice by work got rounder and fuller. In the *adagio* she was second only to Lind; the depth of feeling was profound; the house was hushed to deep silence, fearing to miss a note. But when she came to the cabaletta, "Ah! non ginge," and in her enthusiasm poured forth a volume of sound, and executed a flight of varied and daring scales as if it were mere child's play, the excitement of the auditory was at the highest pitch, especially at the final prolonged shake on the B flat in alt. What more can be expected from a dramatic vocalist than the highest order of executive skill, a faultless intonation, an organ of an almost unprecedented compass, and perfect phrasing? As for the exuberance of fancy which prompts her to indulge in the profusion of staccato cadenzas, it will soon be toned down—kept within limits—as she tests the judgment and taste of the refined audiences at the Royal Italian Opera.

The restoration of "Don Giovanni" ought to be recorded in lyric history as prominently as that of Charles II. in political records. The 13th of May should be hereafter cited at the Royal Italian Opera as an operatic epoch as much as the 29th of May; not that transposition is quite so bad as revolution, but we want no Alaric-Cromwell to meddle with Mozart. True it is that for extraordinary tenors like Donzelli, Garcia, Braham, and Mario much latitude may be extended to secure co-operation in a cast, and inasmuch as the connoisseurs, aged or modern, had made up their minds that no "Don Giovanni" was to be found after Ambrogetti and Tamburini, it was as well to afford the lady amateurs the opportunity of accepting that "duck of a Mario," of stepping out of a Velasquez frame, to show, if not to sing, his seductive arts. The excuse for exceptional experiment is exhausted; the luxury of Mario in the "Don" was paid for at an exorbitant sacrifice. The vandalism in the score scared the purists, and charming costumes compensated in no degree for a walking gentleman's assumption of the animated libertine of Seville. In Paris the amateurs pronounced their verdict at once that Mario was a failure, and the English public certainly displayed unusual forbearance in tolerating a version which left only two or three pieces tastefully sung, whilst the acting was tasteless and the divine inspiration of a master mind was travestied. What a revenge on Monday night! What a reaction! The instrumentalists seemed freed from intolerable chains; the conductor's head was erect, for he was not painfully watching the vicissitudes of a precarious voice. We had the text, the whole text, and nothing but the text. The singers, even those most gifted with florid attributes, conscientiously abstained from interpolations in the points d'orgue. Mozart was there in his integrity—ever Maylike and fresh in his melodious imagery, ever grand and colossal in his harmonic combinations. Such a performance has not been heard for many a day, and yet was it a cosmopolitan cast. The "giovane cavaliere" is a Frenchman; the "servatore" is a German, the "dame di Burgos" is a Hungarian, the "contadina" is Gallic, as also the "commendatore." If the race of Italian singers, pur et simple, be dying out, as it is alleged, may we have such successors as are now enrolled in the Covent Garden company. The great coup of the restoration, the Monk of the opera stage is Faure. Young, handsome, graceful, lively—such is his physical aspect; a rich, powerful, and extensive organ; a Mozartian mind, reverently following the notation set down—such are his musical and mental qualifications; and thus was there a real Don Giovanni on the stage at last—a flesh-and-blood delineator from first

to last; no skeleton, no automaton, no angular outline; but the entirety, acting and singing with animation, with purpose, and with thorough self-abandonment. No one thought of Faure; it was Don Giovanni on the stage: just like Fechter is never dreamt of whilst Hamlet is on the boards. And yet Faure's delineation is but in its infancy. Now that the Mozartians have endorsed his reading, there can be little doubt what time and confidence will effect. Next to or coequal with the Don Giovanni is the Masetto of Ronconi. Here is another evidence of the versatility of his genius. It was an absolute creation, the whole as finished as a cabinet picture. This was achieved mainly by expressive pantomime. It is in the mobility of the features that Zerlina's "Batti, batti," and "Vedrai carino" is pictorially illustrated by Ronconi; and then the by-play in the ball scene, where Leporello distracts his attention from Zerlina and the Don. The stolid surprise, the bewildering amazement at the dancers, the jealous pang ever and anon shown as he catches a glimpse of the contadina's coquetry! The whole is a study, and it is a perfect wonder how so slight a sketch as Masetto can be made to stand forth such a prominent figure in the tableau. The Leporello of Formes is one of his most striking impersonations. His conception is as novel as it is effective. He makes the servitore—half buffoon, half bravo—one that at his master's bidding would poison in jest. His last scene, as it ought to be, is tragic; he would save the doomed libertine as he in vain essays the acceptance of the marble hand. Formes's rugged method of singing is even in this assumption almost a beauty—certainly it is so in the statue scene, and it supplies a solid substratum in all the concerted pieces. May Tagliafico never give up the Ghost. He was born for the part, if a ghost has any parts. His sepulchral tones are absolutely appalling. Such a triad as that of Faure, Formes, and Tagliafico in the banquet scene is not often come across in any lyric establishment. All Don Ottavios must rely solely on "Il mio tesoro" for their claims to distinction, but there is no reason why "Della sua pace" should not be added. Tambril's glory in the former was at its climax. Of the three prime donne the general body of amateurs would vote for Cillag's Donna Elvira. This is, like Ronconi's Masetto, a complete creation, producing the most intense interest whenever the injured fair one appears. Thus a part, so frequently rendered either insignificant or a nonentity, has become vitalised, and takes its stand, as Mozart intended it should do, in the very front rank. Mme. Penco's Donna Anna was admirably sung, but was not up to the mark in dramatic and declamatory capability. The Zerlina was acted on the Opera Comique principle—a shade too "grisettish" perhaps, but full of charming coquetry, and the airs were sung with artistic conscientiousness and expression. There was no end of honours in encores and recalls; for it was palpably a "sensation" execution evidenced by an appreciative audience. The "tremas" finale was tremendous—Costa managing the gradations of sound with extraordinary skill, and every executant appeared inspired with the notion that on individual execution depended the exciting ensemble.

The musical season is in full force—soirées, matinées, ditto "d'invitation," morning concerts and evening concerts, with or without orchestra, pianoforte recitals, sacred Exeter Hall performances, Crystal Palace gatherings, Motet Choirs, Musical Unions, Glee and Madrigal Unions, Monday Popular Concerts, Leslie Choirs, Choral Societies, Schweizer-Sänger Gesellschaft, Christy's Minstrels, the German Reeds and Welsh John Parry, Penna and Woodin; Canterbury, Oxford, Weston, and Alhambra; Surrey Gardens and Cremorne. Such are the musical attractions, more or less, now to be found in and near the metropolis. Even where the entertainment has essentially a dramatic character music is introduced. More bad music—in the sense of imperfect execution—may be heard in one week in London than in Paris, or any other great European capital, in a year; on the other hand, finer music, and in greater variety, may be listened to within the same time than our Continental detractors can cite for twelve months. Abroad, grand displays come rarely; here, a quarterly array of combined talent is secured, quite irrespective of the standing institutions nearly all the year round. Even the *Musical World* is quite unable to record all the doings in this Babel of sounds, and is compelled to refresh itself from the laborious duties of the campaign by a pitch into Wagner and "Tannhauser," as if we care here one straw for the music of the future when we are absolutely deafened and dismayed by the music of the present. Beginning with the colossal choruses of "Israel in Egypt," by the Sacred Harmonic Society, on a Friday—a glorious rendering of a glorious work—there was a selection from Handel's "Alexander's Feast" on the following morning at the Royal Academy of Music, which is exhibiting signs of vitality, and has some promising pupils. The fifth Philharmonic Concert was on Monday night, with a pianist, Signor Nacciarone, and the violinist Vieuxtemps, Mme. Rieder and Signor Delle Sedie being the vocalists. The names are all more or less eccentric, but the talent was not the less excellent.

The Friday and Saturday concerts at the Crystal Palace combined the attractions of Grisi, Albion, Titiens, Miolan-Carvalho, Giuglini, Herr Formes, Arabella Goddard, &c.

Amongst the concert givers we notice the names of Mme. Parrotti, Mme. Puzzi, Signor Campanella, Signor Gilordoni, Herr Bhennem, Herr A. Schloesser, &c. The English professors seem to be holding back this year, but the annuals of Mrs. Anderson, the Ferrari, Mme. Sainton-Dolby, Miss Palmer, Walter Macfarren, &c., are promised in due course.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

MR. DYCE, R.A., whose charming picture of "Pegwell Bay" was one of the gems of last year's exhibition, has two pictures of totally different style. No. 98, "George Herbert at Bemerton," shows us the quiet, calm old religionist walking in a pleasantly-wooded garden, meditating amidst the fresh greenery. There is an air of quiet solemnity throughout, of freshness and undisturbed tranquillity; the very atmosphere is charged with repose, and the spot seems thoroughly fitted for meditation. No. 289, "Portrait, name unknown," is a fine Oriental head, well and solidly painted. Neither of these works will advance Mr. Dyce's name; both are specimens of solid, well-to-do R.A. ship, holding his own for their painter, perhaps, but certainly not progressive.

Nor has Mr. Cope, R.A. made one step in advance with his "Parting of Lord and Lady Russell" (103). The "grief too great to be relieved by utterance" is not manifested in the stately composure of the husband, nor in the large, mournful eyes of the wife. The picture is utterly wanting in that intensity of pathos which might have been brought to bear on the subject, and in mere technical manipulation is flat and dull. In his baby-pictures of former years Mr. Cope has shown that he has a full appreciation of domestic affections; but he fails at exhibiting the higher emotions, and his genius utterly forsakes him when attempting anything beyond a very ordinary flight. No. 140, "Scholar's Mate," a couple playing chess, A frivolous and foolish play, Wherever we while away the day, and in which the Knight will evidently eventually have to call in the aid of the Bishop, there is much more backbone: the figures are admirably drawn, and the colouring is warm and glowing.

All Mr. Hook's pictures are undeniably good; but all are Hookish. Were it not for the intervening crowd you could pick any of them out from the other end of the room: the green sea, the rough coast; the hardy fishermen, tanned and stalwart; the brown, healthy children, are all here, as they have been any time these last five years. No. 118, "Leaving Cornwall for the Whithy Fishery," shows the parting of one of the Hook fishermen with his Hook wife and Hook children. No. 317, "Compassed by the Involiate Sea," shows the Hook fisherman recumbent, playing with the Hook wife and Hook baby, while the Hook little boy comes tumbling up the slope

with a bunch of seaweed in his hand. No 522, "Sea Urchins," shows us two of the Hook children fishing from a tethered buoy in mid-ocean. In all these pictures there is the Hook sea—vivid, transparent, lambent, and liquid—not so liquid in the last, by-the-way, as in the others—and the Hook sky, which is not nearly so successful, the artist apparently being deficient in his power of rendering aerial perspective. All these excellences we fully grant; but, where such admirable manipulation is at command, it is to be regretted that somewhat finer conception is not called into play. Mr. Hook has the hand of a first-rate artist: cannot he find some friend to act as his head, and provide him with a broader, better subject?

Mr. Phillip, R.A., has also settled down into monotony. His picture of "Gossips at a Well" (66) has all his old characteristics—all the warm Spanish tint on the same caballeros and señoritas, all the clever colouring and *impasto*—which first won him his name: nothing more.

Mr. F. Pickersgill is hopelessly stationary. His "Duke Frederick Banishing Rosalind" (42), his "Miranda, Ferdinand, and Prospero" (77), and his "Pirates of the Mediterranean Playing at Dice for Prisoners" (370) are all conventionally theatrical and thoroughly uninteresting. The same flaxen-headed woman with the big blue eyes has stood for Miranda and Rosalind, and clutches the arm of her sister as one of the pirates' victims. The pirates themselves are true specimens of the "penny-plain and twopenny-coloured" heroes provided by Mr. West, of Vyck-street, and would make admirable figures for schoolboy tinselling, while Duke Frederick is a "heavy father" in a bad temper, and Prospero looks marvellously as though he could not help it. On the other hand, the veteran Mr. Solomon Hart, in his picture of "St. Elizabeth, Queen of Hungary, Distributing Alms to the Poor," exhibits decided signs of late-in-life improvements, more especially in his tone and colour.

It is always pleasant to meet with so strictly conscientious an artist as Mr. Noel Paton, and, though his this-year's specimen, "Luther at Erfurt" (10), is not equal in pathos to his "Home," nor in deep melodramatic interest to his "India," it is full of concentrated power and genius. The worn, ascetic look, the earnestness of devotion, the intensity of feeling, are very well rendered; and the accessories of the picture—the old books, mediæval furniture, crucifix, rosary, and large iron-clasped Bible, are painted with pre-Raphaelitish care. The blot in the picture is Luther's hand, which is so bony and reticulated as to look more as if it belonged to the skull lying close by it than to a living man.

Mr. C. Landseer, R.A., sends but one specimen, fortunately, which he calls "Births, Deaths, and Marriages;" why, it is impossible to say, save that an inane lady, a silly child, and a very stout serving-maid are all looking over the first sheet of the *Times* supplement.

Mr. Horsley's picture of "The Prodigal Son" has a good deal of nice feeling and fair painting; its error is that the son is not "afar off," but close at hand when the father hears of his coming; so close, indeed, that the old gentleman (a good specimen of the English yeoman) seems quite to have overshot his mark, and is gazing into the far distance, while the scapegrace is almost under his feet.

Mr. Redgrave has four very good pictures, marked with his usual characteristics. Mr. J. F. Lewis, A., of Eastern fame, has three, the best of which is No. 208, "In the Bezeestem, Elkhann Kalle, Cairo," representing an old Oriental merchant in the bazaar, a magnificent old fellow in the full enjoyment of his *kief*. Mr. Lewis's hand has lost none of its cunning in the representation of the flowing, gorgeous Eastern colour, and he has improved in the *pose* and arrangement of his figures.

W. F. Goddall is also among the Easterns this year (No. 203), "The First-born" shows us an Egyptian mother tenderly bending over the little brownskin asleep in her lap. The picture is of a large size, but is finished with as much care as though it were a cabinet gem. The colouring is very highly toned, and the expression is chaste and softened. The admirable work in the inlaid table on the right-hand corner should also be remarked. When we have said that Mr. Abraham Cooper sends several of his signboard horses and teaboard sportsmen shooting plethoric game with the well-known toy-muskets of our infancy, and that, under the title of "Venus Lamenting the Loss of Adonis," Mr. Frost sends a picture of a nude woman and a flaxen-headed boy staring feebly into vacancy, we think we have enumerated all the figure-painting Academicians.

It will not be necessary to say much of the works of Messrs. Clarkson Stanfield and David Roberts. Any one in the habit of frequenting art-exhibitions could tell with shut eyes what they have sent—"Dirty Weather on the Coast of Antrim," "Homeward Bound," &c., &c. We all know Stanfield's wondrous rolling seas and thick lurid skies, with the inevitable storm-cloud breaking in the distance; and wherever there is room for them, the two figures, one bending over a coil of rope, the other with one hand on the helm and the other at his mouth, holla'ing for dear life. Here they are again! and here is Mr. Roberts's gorgeous cathedral interior—this time St. Peter's at Rome, whereas last year it was St. Stephen's, at Vienna, or St. Hammelsbraten at Munich (Pompey and Caesar being so very much alike, specially Pompey); and here are "The Ruins of the Temple of the Sun, at Baalbek" (108), in which, if competent authorities tell us rightly, Mr. Roberts has completely altered the position of the ruins for the sake of improving the composition of his picture; and in all these specimens there is the same broad handsweep, the same free, bold manipulation which these two great old masters learned in covering the flats of Drury-lane and Covent Garden Theatres with a double-tint brush, and which has been of such use to them in all their later paintings. Mr. E. W. Cooke, who promises to be such a worthy successor to Mr. Stanfield, sends but one picture (175), "A Dutch Galliot Running into the Port of Aberdeen during a Gale of Wind," a picture full of spirited painting and capital atmospheric effect. Mr. Witherington has three healthy English landscapes, and Mr. Creswick sends a similar number, marked by his usual characteristics.

But it is in Mr. F. R. Lee, R.A., that the most extraordinary alteration and improvement is manifest. Those who remember him but as the painter of green and tame landscapes, in which Mr. Sidney Cooper's cattle chewed the cud and ruminated, will be astonished at the boldness and excellence of his present pictures. No. 16, "The Signal-station, Gibraltar," in the bold colouring and aerial perspective, in the accurate delineation of the rugged rock and rough spiky foliage, in the bright Mediterranean atmosphere—general, softened, yet glowing effect—stands pre-eminent as a work of a thoroughly artistic mind. Totally different, yet equally good, is the quiet repose and dreamy monotony of No. 45, "Where the Railway has not yet Come," and the bold dash of seaweed and briny freedom of No. 242, "The Breakwater, Plymouth."

Mr. Sidney Cooper is also manifestly improved by the separation from his brother artist. Thrown on his own resources, he has produced landscape effects which no one would ever have given him credit for. His "Afternoon in the Meadows, East Kent" (221), is quite as noticeable for the hot June glare and solemn peaceful stillness of the unfrequented meadows themselves as for the thoroughly life-like cattle tenanted them; while in 411, "Drovers Collecting their Flocks under the East Fells, Cumberland," the drovers and the flocks, though both excellently painted, are decidedly inferior to the snow-covered landscape, so drearily snow-bedecked, so wild, and rough, and wintry in its drift filled shaws and rugged inequalities. Only let Mr. Cooper beware of self-repetition, that horrible bane of the "manufacturer" as distinguished from the "artist." Last year he had a successful snow-picture: this year he has repeated himself. Next year let him choose some new phase for his clever fancy and facile brush.

We are not sorry to have finished with the A.'s and R.A.'s. Next week we will turn to the works of those younger men on whom the immediate future of our Academy more directly hangs, premising that we see in them all hopeful promise both of brain and hand.

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NOTICE TO COUNTRY RESIDENTS.
The Nobility, Gentry, and the Public are respectfully informed that mourning goods will be sent to any part of the country to select from free of expense (accompanied by an experienced dressmaker, if necessary), or if patterns be sent to the warehouse, accompanied by a descriptive note of the mourning required, the proper supply in any quantity will be dispatched the same day.
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JAMES SPENCE and Co. request the particular attention of Ladies to the following lot:—
No. 1. THE NEW FIGURED SPRING SILK, both sides alike, 3s. 3d. per yard, in Brown, Green, Violet, and Blue.
No. 2. Wide-width BLACK FRENCH GLACES, 2s. 9d. per yard, usually sold at 3s. 6d.
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TO DRAPERS, MILLINERS, AND DRESSMAKERS.
MATCHING ORDERS carefully and promptly attended to.
CUT LENGTHS at the lowest Trade Prices.
MANTLES FOR PATTERNS, in all the newest shapes and materials, at prices that cannot be equalled in the Trade.
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SILKS IS BAKER and CRISP'S.
The Cheapest House in London for GLOVES is Baker and Crisp's.
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Patterns or Engravings sent post-free to any part of the world.
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TO LADIES.—Our new Showrooms
are now open with the largest stock in the world of Spring and Summer Horsehair Crinoline Petticoats, Paris and American Watch-spring Elastic Petticoats, 5s. to 21s. Horsehair Crinoline Corded and Damask Petticoats, 7s. to 25s. Ladies' Front fastening Elastic Bodices, 5s. to 21s. Self-lacing Family and Nursing Stays, Belts, &c., 5s. 6d. to 25s. Address, WILLIAM CARTER and Co., 29, Ludgate-st., St. Paul's, E.C.

NEW and DISTINGUISHED MANTLES.
The NEW FASHION SHEETS ARE NOW READY, which will be forwarded post-free.
AMOTT BROTHERS and Co., 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

THE NEW MANTLE UDINE,
a new and graceful shape, in cloth and the new materials, price 16s. 9d.
ALSO IN RICH GLACE SILK, at 15s. 6d.
This new Mantle will be found, for real value and beauty, unsurpassed in the metropolis.
Engraving free.
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FAMILY MOURNING IN GREAT VARIETY.
CHEAP MOURNING SILKS, CHEAP MOURNING DRESSES, CHEAP MOURNING SHAWLS, CHEAP FANCY GOOD FINE MOURNING.
Write for patterns, and save your money, to AMOTT BROTHERS, 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

NEW SPRING DRESSES.
PATTERNS POST-FREE.
HAREGE ANGLAIS IN ALL THE NEW PATTERNS, 3d. to 6d. per yard, worth double.
400 PIECES OF THE NEW GLACE IMPERIALE, a new and pretty material, 6d. 1/2.
800 PIECES REAL REPTA MOHAIRS, 8d. per yard.
REAL WASHING GRENADES, 1s. 6d. per yard.
RICH PEKIN FOULARD FANCIES, for Morning wear, at 1s. 4d. per yard for comparison.
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NEW and ELEGANT SHAWLS, IN EMBROIDERED PURE CASHMERE.
ELEGANTLY TRIMMED LAMA SHAWLS, 10s. 6d. each.
NEW CASHMERE SHAWLS FOR SPRING, Elegantly Quilted, 18s. 9d. each.
MOURNING SHAWLS IN GREAT VARIETY Quilted in Grape, 18s. 9d. each.
REAL SPANISH LACE SHAWLS, from 21s. to 25 guineas, worth double.
RICH CASHMERE SHAWLS, Elegantly Trimmed with Lace, at 5s. 6d.
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NOIRE IMPERIALE,
THE NEW SHADE OF BLACK SILK, highly recommended for permanent brilliancy and wear, at 15s. 6d. Full Dress, usually sold at Three Pounds.
Patterns post-free.
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NEW SILKS.—PATTERNS POST-FREE.
QUALITY AND STYLE IS THE TEST OF CHEAPNESS. Save your money by writing to AMOTT BROTHERS for patterns of the new silks for comparison.
GOOD BLACK SILKS, 1 guinea Full Dress.
RICH BLACK GLACE SILKS, at 15s. 6d.
NOIRE IMPERIALE, THE NEW SHADE OF BLACK, at 15s. 6d.
CHECKED and STRIPED SILKS IN GREAT VARIETY, 16s. 9d. Full Dress.
FOULARD and WASHING SILKS, at 1s. 4d.
RICH JASPAR BAY and CHECKED SILKS, at 1s. 6d.
FRENCH SILKS, IN FLORAL and OTHER DESIGNS, 14 guineas.
SUPERIOR GLACE SILKS IN ANY COLOUR, at 15s. 6d.
FANCY SILKS IN GREAT VARIETY, at 15s. 6d.
RICH BLACK MOIRE ANTIQUES, 25 guineas.
MOIRE ANTIQUES IN ALL THE NEW COLOURS, 25 guineas.
The whole of the above goods being genuine and new. Ladies writing from the country may depend upon having their orders executed from the catalogue at advertised prices. The goods will be forwarded carriage-free on all parcels exceeding £5. Send for a detailed catalogue and patterns, which will be forwarded free.
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THE CHEAPEST HOUSE for SILKS in
London is SOWERBY, TATTON, and CO.'S, of the Regent Circus, Oxford-street. Patterns post-free.

TO BERLIN-WOOL WORKERS and EMBROIDERERS.—Constant Employment to Good Hands. Vacancies for a few Improvers.—Apply to Miss HIBBERD, 47, Newgate-street, E.C.

"LOCK-STITCH" SEWING-MACHINES,
MANUFACTURED BY THE "WHEELER and WILSON" MANUFACTURING COMPANY.
Office and Salesrooms, 462, Oxford-street, London.
Recommended for their simplicity, fine mechanism, elegance of model and finish, speed, beauty, and durability of the work performed. They have been in use sufficiently long to thoroughly test their quality, and give entire satisfaction. They are the favourite machine for domestic purposes, and are both suitable and profitable in the workshop.
Descriptive Pamphlets Gratis.

GARDNERS' LAMPS ARE THE BEST.—The largest, most recherche, and cheapest assortment in London. Moderator Table-lamps from 6s. each. Engraving free by post. Finest Colza Oil, 4s. per gallon. Lamps cleaned, repaired, and rendered equal to new.—H. and J. GARDNER, by appointment to Her Majesty (established 169 years), 453, Strand, Charing-cross, W.C.

CHUBB'S PATENT SAFES, the most secure
against Fire and Theft.
CHUBB'S PATENT DETECTOR LOCKS and LATCHES. Price-list free.—Cates and Son, 57, St. Paul's-churchyard, E.C.

WHEN YOU ASK FOR GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH,
SEE THAT YOU GET IT.
AS INFERIOR KINDS ARE OFTEN SUBSTITUTED.
WITHERSPON and Co., Glasgow and London.

DR. DE JONGH'S
(Knight of the Order of Leopold of Belgium)
LIGHT-BROWN COD-LIVER OIL
prescribed by the most eminent Medical Men throughout the world as the safest, sweetest, and most effectual remedy for
CONSUMPTION, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, COUGHS, ANEMIA, QUINZA, GENERAL DEBILITY, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.
is incomparably superior to every other variety.

SELECT MEDICAL OPINIONS.
Sir HENRY MARSH, Bart., M.D., Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland:—"I consider Dr. de Jongh's Cod-liver Oil to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value."
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DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD-LIVER OIL is sold only in Imperial Half-pints, 2s. 6d., Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; capsules, and labelled with his stamp and signature, without which none can be considered genuine by respectable Chemists.
SOLE COGNIZERS,
ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., 77, STRAND, London, W.C.

CAUTION.—Beware of Proposed Substitutions.

WEDDING and BIRTHDAY PRESENTS.
DRESSING-CASES, TRAVELLING DRESSING-BAGS, DE-PATCH-BOXES, Writing Cases, Jewellery Cases, RETICULE and CARRIAGE BAGS, MEDICAL CASES, ENVELOPE-CASES, BLOTTING BOOKS and INK-STANDS, &c. &c. the NEW PATENT SELF-CLOSING BOOK-CLIP, &c. a choice variety of ELEGANCES and NOVELTIES suitable for PRESENTATION, to be had at H. RODRIGUES, 42, Piccadilly.

NO CHARGE MADE FOR STAMPING PAPER
AND ENVELOPES WITH ARMS, CREST, or INITIALS. RODRIGUES' Cream-laid Adhesive ENVELOPES, 4s. per 100. Cream-laid Note, full size, five quires for with stationery, 12s. 6d. quires for 1s. Foolscap, 9s. per ream. Sermon Paper, 4s. 6d. All kinds of stationery equally cheap, at H. RODRIGUES, 42, Piccadilly.

WEDDING CARDS, WEDDING
ENVELOPES, INVITATIONS to the CELEBRITY, DEJEUNER and BALL, PRINTED and STAMPED in SILVER, with ARMS or CREST, in the latest fashion. CARD PLATE ELEGANTLY ENGRAVED and 100 super-fine CARDS PRINTED for 4s. 6d. AT HENRY RODRIGUES, 42, Piccadilly, London.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS, SCREENS,
FRAMES, and PORTRAITS of the ROYAL FAMILY, the CROWNED HEADS, EUROPE and DISTINGUISHED PERSONAGES of all Nations. SINGLE PORTRAITS, 1s. 6d. each. CATALOGUES post-free, at H. RODRIGUES, 42, Piccadilly.

BOND'S PERMANENT MARKING INK (the original), for marking on Linen, Silk, or Cotton. Requires no preparation, and is by far the best. Notice.—Observe that no Sixpenny size of the genuine has ever yet been prepared, and that each bottle bears the address on the label, 28, Long-lane, West Smithfield, City, E.C., where it may be obtained Wholesale and Retail, and at most Druggists, Medicine-vendors, Stationers, &c., in the United Kingdom. Price 1s. per bottle.

FENDERS, STOVES, FIREIRONS,
and CHIMNEYPieces.—Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOWROOMS. They contain such an assortment of Fenders, Stoves, Ranges, Chimneypieces, Fireirons, and General Ironmongery as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright stoves, with ornate ornaments and two sets of bars, £2 15s. to £3 15s.; with one set of bars, £2 15s. to £3 15s.; steel fenders, £2 15s. to £3 15s.; ditto, with rich ornate ornaments, £2 15s. to £3 15s.; chimneypieces, from £1 8s. to £20; fireirons from 2s. 3d. the set to £4 4s. THE BURTON and all other PATENT STOVES with radiating hearthplates.

BEDSTEADS, BATHS, and LAMPS.
WILLIAM S. BURTON has SIX LARGE SHOWROOMS devoted exclusively to the SEVERAL DISPLAY of Lamps, Baths, and Metallic Bedsteads. The stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country.

Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d. to £20 0s. each.
Shower Baths, from 8s. 0d. to £9 0s. each.
Lamps (Moderator), from 6s. 0d. to £7 7s. each.
All other kinds at the same rate.
Pure Colza Oil 4s. 6d. per gallon.

CUTLERY WARRANTED.—The most varied assortment of TABLE CUTLERY in the world, all warranted, is ON SALE at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, at prices that are remunerative on 7 because of the largeness of the stock. 34-inch ivory-handled table knives, with high shoulders, 12s. 6d. per dozen; dessert to match, 10s. 1/2. to balance, 6d. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. 3d. per pair; larger sizes from 20s. to 25s. 6d. per dozen; extra-fine ivory, 3s. 6d. with silver ferrules, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; white bone table knives, 6s. per dozen; dessert, 6s.; carvers, 2s. 6d. per pair; black horn table knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; dessert, 6s.; carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table steel, from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks in cases and otherwise and of the new plated fish knives.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S GENERAL
FURNISHING IRONMONGERY CATALOGUE may be had gratis and free by post. It contains upwards of 600 illustrations of his limited stock of sterling silver, electroplate, nickel silver, and britannia metal goods, dish covers, tea, coffee, stoves, fenders, marble chimneypieces, kitchen ranges, lamps, gasaliers, teapots, urns, and kettles; cloths, table cutlery, baths, toilet ware, turnery, iron and brass bedsteads, bedding, bedroom cabinet furniture, &c.; with lists of prices and plans of the twenty large showrooms, at 29 Oxford-street, W. 1, 1s. 2s. 3s. 4s. 5s. 6s. 7s. 8s. 9s. 10s. 11s. 12s. 13s. 14s. 15s. 16s. 17s. 18s. 19s. 20s. 21s. 22s. 23s. 24s. 25s. 26s. 27s. 28s. 29s. 30s. 31s. 32s. 33s. 34s. 35s. 36s. 37s. 38s. 39s. 40s. 41s. 42s. 43s. 44s. 45s. 46s. 47s. 48s. 49s. 50s. 51s. 52s. 53s. 54s. 55s. 56s. 57s. 58s. 59s. 60s. 61s. 62s. 63s. 64s. 65s. 66s. 67s. 68s. 69s. 70s. 71s. 72s. 73s. 74s. 75s. 76s. 77s. 78s. 79s. 80s. 81s. 82s. 83s. 84s. 85s. 86s. 87s. 88s. 89s. 90s. 91s. 92s. 93s. 94s. 95s. 96s. 97s. 98s. 99s. 100s. 101s. 102s. 103s. 104s. 105s. 106s. 107s. 108s. 109s. 110s. 111s. 112s. 113s. 114s. 115s. 116s. 117s. 118s. 119s. 120s. 121s. 122s. 123s. 124s. 125s. 126s. 127s. 128s. 129s. 130s. 131s. 132s. 133s. 134s. 135s. 136s. 137s. 138s. 139s. 140s. 141s. 142s. 143s. 144s. 145s. 146s. 147s. 148s. 149s. 150s. 151s. 152s. 153s. 154s. 155s. 156s. 157s. 158s. 159s. 160s. 161s. 162s. 163s. 164s. 165s. 166s. 167s. 168s. 169s. 170s. 171s. 172s. 173s. 174s. 175s. 176s. 177s. 178s. 179s. 180s. 181s. 182s. 183s. 184s. 185s. 186s. 187s. 188s. 189s. 190s. 191s. 192s. 193s. 194s. 195s. 196s. 197s. 198s. 199s. 200s. 201s. 202s. 203s. 204s. 205s. 206s. 207s. 208s. 209s. 210s. 211s. 212s. 213s. 214s. 215s. 216s. 217s. 218s. 219s. 220s. 221s. 222s. 223s. 224s. 225s. 226s. 227s. 228s. 229s. 230s. 231s. 232s. 233s. 234s. 235s. 236s. 237s. 238s. 239s. 240s. 241s. 242s. 243s. 244s. 245s. 246s. 247s. 248s. 249s. 250s. 251s. 252s. 253s. 254s. 255s. 256s. 257s. 258s. 259s. 260s. 261s. 262s. 263s. 264s. 265s. 266s. 267s. 268s. 269s. 270s. 271s. 272s. 273s. 274s. 275s. 276s. 277s. 278s. 279s. 280s. 281s. 282s. 283s. 284s. 285s. 286s. 287s. 288s. 289s. 290s. 291s. 292s. 293s. 294s. 295s. 296s. 297s. 298s. 299s. 300s. 301s. 302s. 303s. 304s. 305s. 306s. 307s. 308s. 309s. 310s. 311s. 312s. 313s. 314s. 315s. 316s. 317s. 318s. 319s. 320s. 321s. 322s. 323s. 324s. 325s. 326s. 327s. 328s. 329s. 330s. 331s. 332s. 333s. 334s. 335s. 336s. 337s. 338s. 339s. 340s. 341s. 342s. 343s. 344s. 345s. 346s. 347s. 348s. 349s. 350s. 351s. 352s. 353s. 35